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27 November 1985

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

4 NATIONS TO REQUEST UN DEBATE ON USSR FISHING PRACTICES

Santiago ERCILLA in Spanish 9 Oct 85 pp 46-47

[Text] Although they are ostensibly engaged in fishing, the constant presence of just over 90 vessels from socialist countries (most of them Soviet boats) just across the 200-mile line off the Chilean coast is disturbing to the officials of our country. This is not just because catching certain species indiscriminately can deplete part of our ichthyological wealth, but also because of strategic considerations.

It is well known that the Soviet Union's fishing fleet constitutes its finest network of intelligent agents spread around the world. As a matter of fact, various reports have revealed that on board each fishing boat is a political commissar of the Communist Party, "who has more authority than the captain of the ship in question."

In any case, the situation is nothing new for Chileans. Under the Allende government, the Russians and the Cubans, among others, were authorized to fish, even within the 200-mile territorial sea.

After 1973, these boats had to move beyond the limit; but they never stopped patrolling the area, where they remain all year long. Curiously, they have stepped up their presence in the last 7 years. In 1981, an average of 42 boats were observed each month; in 1982, that figure rose to 64; and in 1983, the monthly average climbed to nearly 73. The rise did not stop there, however: In 1984, an average of 80 boats were observed, and according to the latest data released by the commander in chief of the national fleet, Vice-Adm Sergio Sanchez, this year the monthly average fluctuates between 80 and 120.

"These boats are fishing and catching major quantities of renewable resources. The time will come when the reserve will be depleted, and we will be affected somehow, because the fish cannot move to areas free of depredation," stated Vice-Adm Sanchez.

As for the quantities caught by these boats each year, Undersecretary of Fishing Roberto Verdugo estimated them at an average of 800,000 tons per year. Other sources, however, state that they may exceed 1 million tons.

The reason many socialist countries have resorted to the Pacific is that in recent years, many of their sources have been shut off to them because of the gradual acceptance by countries of the 200-mile thesis. That concept sets aside a certain area as the exclusive economic zone of the bordering country.

The first step taken by nations such as the Soviet Union, Poland and Cuba was to go to friendly African countries that would allow them to fish off their coasts. After they drew down the stock of species, however, they had to move toward the Pacific. The quantity of seafood the Soviets consume in a year, 25 percent of their total protein diet, is proof of this need. Another illustrative statistic is that in 1982 alone, they consumed a total of 14 million tons of seafood. To meet their needs, then, they have no choice but to sail the seas.

Although the entire coast of Chile has been visited by these fishermen beyond the 200-mile limit, the principal points of interest are off Antofagasta, between Valparaiso and Talcahuano, and from Corral to the Gulf of Penas. They have been particularly concentrated in the latter site in recent months.

The fishermen's primary mission is to catch a variety of mackerel that is listed in the catalogues as Spanish Mackerel. They are also interested in krill, one of the most protein-rich products of the sea that is found in abundance in the Antarctic and in the Drake Sea. It should be noted that the Soviet Union is the only country that catches krill on a commercial scale; it uses the product as animal feed.

The boats that make up this fleet are much more modern than normal fishing vessels, in that they are able to process the product entirely at sea. The fish heads and tails are converted to fishmeal, which is used to feed the Soviet sheep herd. The rest is made into fish filets or cubes, and is canned. Later it is loaded--also at sea--onto refrigerator ships that transport the fish to the Soviet Union. But that is not all. If a large number of lobsters, spider crabs or squid are found among the catch, they are also canned for sale in Europe. This brings in a tidy profit in foreign exchange.

All Levels of Fishing

These factory ships travel around the area all year long. If conditions are not good for fishing, they devote their time to conducting ichthyological research. In addition to the most modern fishing technology, these vessels have the latest communications equipment, radar and electronic antennas. They are refueled by tankers, and it is said that they provide more than one service to the submarines that ply the seas.

"Because they compile a variety of information, be it hydrographic, oceanographic or scientific, they will eventually be able to meet the needs of future military operations," stated Vice-Adm Sergio Sanchez.

Undoubtedly, from the strategic point of view, it is important to study the sea and its vicissitudes in a vital region such as Cape Horn, which would be of the utmost importance as a sea route in case of a worldwide conflagration.

For this reason, the scientific research that the Soviets are conducting in this region has understandably unclear motives.

Unfortunately, not much can be done to put an end to this indiscriminate fishing and the research that is supposedly going on. Determined to intervene in the situation, Chile has talked with the countries that make up the Joint Commission of the South Pacific, and at this time it is trying to have the matter discussed at the United Nations.

Confirming an announcement made by Adm Jose Toribio Merino, Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle mentioned that Chile, along with Ecuador, Peru and Colombia, would like to bring up the issue at the technical meetings of the UN General Assembly. The key concern is the damage the Soviet ships cause to marine resources when they fish off the coasts of the South Pacific countries.

One good way to defend Chile's wealth would be to extend the 200-mile zone to 350 miles in areas where the ocean floor permits, as our country has already done. As long as this thesis is upheld, some kind of mechanism will have to be found to prevent those fishing vessels from entering Chile's exclusive economic zone. By penetrating the area, they are able not only to catch part of our fishing resources, but also to lend some kind of assistance to their clandestine allies in the region.

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BAHAMAS

TRIBUNE SEES TIES WITH CUBA UNDERGOING CHANGE

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 5 Oct 85 pp 1, 13

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

THE CUBAN Ambassador designate to the Bahamas is expected to have greater mobility here following Foreign Affairs Minister Clement Maynard's visit to communist Cuba in August.

The Cuban visit was necessitated by an incident in May which had the potential of developing into a situation similar to the May 10, 1980 bombing of a Defence Force patrol craft by Cuban MiG fighters.

The incident involved the arrest by the Defence Force of eight Cubans in the Anguilla Cay area on illegal fishing charges in May. The case was dismissed when prosecution failed to establish whether the men were fishing.

It is understood that the fishermen radioed Cuba that they were being harassed by a Bahamian patrol craft. An order was given and MiG jets scrambled. It has been reported that the MiG jets were then ordered to return to base on the instructions of a top official, possibly President Fidel Castro.

Mr Maynard went to Cuba to hold talks with officials there in an effort to find a solution to the poaching problem.

Although both countries have declared exclusive fishing zones which overlap one another, officials have never sat down to negotiate an agreement over the matter. It is generally felt that, in such circumstances, both

countries would recognize a mid-way point in the waters that separate the countries.

It was against this background that Mr Maynard went to Cuba.

However, what has surprised political observers is the fact that the Bahamas took the initiative and that the talks started off at the ministerial level.

It was expected that officers of both countries, either from their respective Ministries in Havana and Nassau or from the United Nations would have met over the matter and that involvement at the Ministerial level would only become necessary if there was a major policy question to deal with or a final agreement was to be arrived at.

It is understood that the high-level nature of the talks raised the eyebrows of officials in both London and Washington.

They felt that the high-level involvement may have represented the beginning of a shift, and possibly a realignment in Bahamian foreign policy, it has been reliably reported.

It is understood that such a move would normally represent an intent to shift foreign policy.

It is understood that London and Washington made inquiries and "the circumstances were such that they accepted the Bahamas was telling the truth and that the Bahamas was naive" and that Mr Maynard's visit did not represent any new policy decision. The Tribune

was told.

It is understood that during the August talks, Cuba offered to take the Bahamian delegation to the meeting of the non-aligned Third World countries. The Bahamas delegation declined.

The Cuban Government has released a communique on the meeting. The Bahamas Government has not.

It is understood that Foreign Affairs is now privately indicating that Cuba has added additional matters that the Bahamas has not agreed to.

Since Independence, the Cuban ambassador to the United Nations has included the Bahamas in his portfolio, likewise the Bahamas ambassador to the UN Dr Davidson Hepburn has Cuban affairs in his portfolio.

However, it is understood that the two countries will now have non-resident ambassadors, which means that the Cuban representative responsible for Bahamian affairs will operate out of Havana, instead of New York, while the Bahamian responsible for Cuban affairs will be stationed in Nassau, obviously operating from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It is extremely unlikely that Mr Maynard participated in the Cuban talks without the Prime Minister's blessing. It is understood that he was accompanied to Cuba by UN ambassador Dr Hepburn.

BAHAMAS

VANGUARD EXPLAINS BACKGROUND TO LEADERSHIP CHANGE

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 4 Oct 85 pp 1, 5

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

VANGUARD Acting Chairman Lionel Carey said today there is no "conflict" between the party and former Chairman Dr John McCartney who has been "dropped" from his post. He said the "door remains open" for the ex-university professor to return.

The founding vice-chairman of the party who "automatically" became the acting chairman following Dr McCartney's departure, said the action was not an attempt to put Dr McCartney out of the Vanguard nor was it a "punitive" measure against him for leaving to find a teaching post in the US.

Mr Carey said that a chairman will be "confirmed" until the socialist party holds its next congress in 1986, when a new chairman will be chosen to replace Dr McCartney. On Tuesday, October 1, the Vanguard leader announced his resignation to "work on a book and teach" abroad.

In an exclusive interview at his home today, Mr Carey, 43, explained what the party meant by the "deactivation" of Dr McCartney, 46, who had been the party's founding chairman since 1971.

"That means that he is dropped from his present office or position that he holds in the party until such time, of course, that he satisfies the party that he is prepared to improve, let's say, on his behaviour or he is prepared to work more dili-

gently or he is prepared to resolve whatever reason it is for his deactivation," Mr Carey said.

"So from that point of view the door remains open," he said. "So it was not an attempt on our part to put Dr McCartney out of the party. We were caught in a very important situation as you can see with him going away at this time.

"And as we have said before in the press that the society right now has reached a point where the Vanguard Party must have its leaders here. We can't be like before," Mr Carey said.

The acting chairman said Dr McCartney's decision to leave the Bahamas was the reason for his "deactivation," and that "there is no other matters, no conflict or anything like that."

"There is no other conflict in the party. He has worked very hard in the party," he said. "Of course, we wish him well and we are sorry that any member, right, who has to leave or have go elsewhere or has to do something else."

"This is not a punitive measure. As far as the party is concerned, it is a measure to protect the party's interest. There is no bad feelings. We don't have any," Mr Carey said.

The September 30 letter of "deactivation" to Dr McCartney, read:

"Dear Comrade,

"We have to advise you that the party has decided to

deactivate you at this time. Your actions over the past few months have been unclear and uncertain as to your position in relationship to the party.

"Your contribution to the party has been a very valuable one and we regret that this situation has materialized. In the interest of protecting ourselves this action became necessary because of questions from members of the party and the general public to which we have had to respond.

"As a comrade who struggled well for socialism in the Bahamas, we want to wish you well in whatever endeavours you pursue and remain always open to discussions in this regard."

Mr Carey said that members of the party wanted to keep the matter an internal one but that Dr McCartney went to the press, bringing it into the open.

Dr McCartney, former professor of political science at Purdue University, returned to the Bahamas in 1979 to resume active leadership of the Vanguard Party. His application to join the staff of the College of the Bahamas was rejected.

In his letter of resignation to the Vanguard Central Committee, Dr McCartney said that his decision was based on "personal feelings which were very carefully considered."

In a press release, which Dr McCartney requested be circulated, he listed the same reason as in his letter to the Central Committee, but added that he is presently "in the United States working on a book and teaching."

"On my return to the Bahamas, I will continue the struggle but in another arena," Dr McCartney said.

According to Mr Carey, the "deactivation" of Dr Mc-

Cartney occurred before he announced his resignation to the party's Central Committee. He said that the party sent Dr McCartney a letter on September 30, informing him of the decision to drop him as Chairman and he responded on October 1.

"I think the newspapers got theirs before me because we were informed by the newspapers that they had a release from the family of Dr McCartney and shortly after his sister brought a signed statement to us. She said she was authorised to sign on his behalf," Mr Carey said.

On his assumption of the post of acting chairman, Mr Carey said: "That's an automatic affair in our party until such time as the question is resolved."

"Well, what we will do right now is choose to confirm somebody as chairman until the next Congress and at the party's Congress, of course, officers will be elected," Mr Carey said.

Mr Carey said that for the past two years, the emphasis has been on producing a good paper that will explain the issues and that will heighten the consciousness of the people in the society.

"In that regard, we think the Vanguard Party did a very good job but now, of course, we have to get the party ready for an election and I think the emphasis must now be on recruiting people, getting the party organized, cranking up the machinery and that sort of thing," Mr Carey said.

Mr Carey said that the party's newspaper will continue to be published on a fortnightly basis, but perhaps not as regularly as in the last two years.

BAHAMAS

OPPOSITION FORCES CONTINUE ATTACKS ON PLP GOVERNMENT

PLP Ex-Official's Criticism

Freeport THE FREEPORT NEWS in English 19 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Simon Lewis]

[Text]

Former Deputy Speaker in the House of Assembly and one time representative for the West End and Bimini seat in the House of Assembly, Mr. Henry J. Bowen said today that neither the hosting of the past World Council of Mayors nor the upcoming Heads of Government Conference is going to fight Bahamians political battles. He said that his country belongs to Bahamians and that it is up to Bahamians to clean up their own mess.

The Freeport based businessman and one time close associate of Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling and the Progressive Liberal Party regime, further charged the Prime Minister with attempting to transform the PLP into his personal political club. He said the banishment of Cooper's Town M.P. Mr. Hubert Ingraham draws Sir Lynden one step closer to his goals.

Mr. Bowen who says he still loves Sir Lynden as an individual also went on the offensive against the Minister of National Security Mr. A. Loftus Roker, who he said is reluctant to help rescue the Progressive Liberal party from the clutches of a leader who has betrayed the lofty ideals of the party.

An outspoken critic of the PLP Government and its leadership even before being axed from the PLP Candidate list in 1982 in favour of Mr. Moses Hall, Mr. Bowen today also commented on his being dropped from the party's candidate list in 1982.

Focusing on the Minister of National Security, Mr. A. Loftus Roker, Mr. Bowen

recalled that in the General Elections of 1956, Mr. Roker was the youngest candidate to be fielded by the Progressive Liberal Party and that he was the second youngest.

He pointed out that of that first slate of PLP candidates only Sir Lynden, Mr. Arthur D. Hanna, Mr. Roker and himself were official delegates to the Independence Conference held in London during the winter of 1972.

"Why then, is Mr. Roker so seemingly reluctant to help rescue the Progressive Liberal Party from the clutches of a leader who has betrayed the lofty ideals of the party and prostituted its noble principles" Mr. Bowen asked?

"I believe the answer lies in the makeup of Mr. Roker, himself. The man is an uncompromising nationalist. But more pointedly, he is a black nationalist, and Mr. Roker is deathly afraid of being accused to helping to topple a black government."

He asked: "But what is more sacred? Covering up the indiscretions of a wayward Prime Minister who happens to be black, or preserving respect for the institutions of the Bahamian nation."

Mr. Bowen said that it has been widely reported that as far back as 1976 Mr. Roker had charged that corruption was rocking the PLP to its very foundation. He said that what has not been told is the story behind Mr. Roker's startling charge.

He added that after a scathing attack by the then PLP Party Chairman, Mr. Andrew "Dud" Maynard, that Mr. Roker set about re-writing a speech he had earlier prepared for delivery to the PLP Convention.

He stated that Mr. Roker's revised speech had contained certain facts that were considered damaging to the best interest of the party and that he was prevailed upon to delete them.

"Hence what the public heard was only the watered-down version of Mr. Roker's intended bombshell" Mr. Bowen recalled.

He said that it can be equally surmised that what surfaced during the Commission of Inquiry was only the tip of the iceberg.

"But if the Bahamian people seem to like what Mr. Pindling and his merry band of Political usurpers are doing, why should others care" he asked?

"The World Council of Mayors isn't going to fight our political battles for us; neither will the Heads of Commonwealth Governments. This is our country, and it is up to us to clean up our own mess," he stated.

Switching back to what he described as "that memorable Convention" which was held at the Balmoral Beach Hotel, Mr.

Bowen stated that Mr. Roker swore then never to attend a National General Council meeting as long as Dud Maynard was Chairman.

"And the only time I have personally known Mr. Roker to break that oath was the night in 1982 when candidates were selected to contest that year's elections."

Mr. Bowen noted that normally the NGC is called on to ratify nominees individually, but he recalled that during that meeting the then Chairman of the Candidates Committee, who is also the party leader, broke precedence and presented all candidates to be voted on as a single group.

"This brand new procedure was adopted for the sole purpose of ditching me as I had earlier criticized the Chief (Sir Lynden) for leading a picket line against Freeport businesses. Suffice it to say that I was the only incumbent not re-nominated by the PLP in 1982, and as such, Mr. Pindling got his wish" Mr. Bowen stated.

"That stunt is likely to be pulled again. And when the next group of PLP candidates are presented for ratification by the party's council, the name of Mr. Hubert Ingraham will not be the only familiar one missing.

"Why, oh why do so many PLP parliamentarians wait so patiently to be led to the slaughter" he asked.

"Yes! Mr. Roker positively loathed the vulgarity; the Chief can-do-no-wrong mentality; and the slavish bootlicking displayed during Chairman Maynard's tenure. However, whether or not the Minister of National Security is equally turned off by Mr. McWeeney's (Sean McWeeney, new party chairman) antics, I cannot say.

"In any event, with the effective banishment of Mr. Hubert Ingraham, Mr. Pindling's dream of transforming the PLP into his personal political club draws one step closer to reality. And as Clarence Bain would have said, "Great God Almighty, what do I see and hear"?

TUC Statement

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 4 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

THE Trade Union Congress announced today that as a result of the "blatant corruption" in Government, it would seek an accommodation of all opposition forces to provide Bahamians with a "viable alternative" to the PLP whenever a general election is called.

"Members concluded that as a result of the political crisis facing the Bahamas, it has now become absolutely necessary for the Congress to become more active in the political life of the nation," the TUC said in a four-page press statement issued after its second annual Retreat at Treasure Cay, Abaco.

"Members agreed that as a result of the blatant corruption of the Government, the Congress would seek an accommodation of all opposition forces in the country," the TUC said.

"The purpose of such an accommodation would be to provide for the Bahamian public a viable alternative to the Pindling Government whenever a general election is called," it said.

"The Congress sees this as the best means to rid our beloved nation of a Government which has disgraced our good name and made the Bahamas the laughing stock of the international community," the TUC added.

According to the statement, some 37 delegates and observers from TUC affiliates throughout the Bahamas attended the Retreat held September 27 and 28 to discuss the state of the TUC and the nation.

Unions participating were the Airport Union, Brewery and Distillers Union, Batelco and ZNS Union, the Distributors and Allied Workers Union, Maritime and Port Workers Union, the Bahamas Union of

Teachers, Bahamas Public Services Union, the Utilities and Allied Services Union, Commonwealth Electrical Workers Union and the Commonwealth Union of Hotel Services and Allied Workers.

According to the TUC, members discussed the continuing political crisis in the Bahamas and the Commission of Inquiry Report.

"Members at the Retreat discussed the political crisis in the Bahamas at great length, and concluded that the failure of the Government to act decisively on the recommendations of the Report is the main cause for the current crisis," the TUC said.

"Members again expressed their pleasure that no member of the leadership of the Trade Union Movement was involved in drug trafficking and noted with satisfaction the maturity of the leadership shown by the BCPOU in dealing with its problem," the statement said.

"They strongly expressed the view that the Government should emulate the leadership of the Trade Union Movement and allow the people to pass judgment on its actions," it stated.

Further, the TUC said that members again called for the immediate resignation of Government and for immediate general elections, a call also made at the first Retreat in North Andros last year.

According to the TUC, members also saw the failure of Government to fund the national Drug Council as another reason for the continuing political crisis.

"Members were particularly irked by the hypocrisy of the Government which is spending millions on the Queen's visit and CHOGM while refusing to spend a penny on the young

people of this nation whose lives are being destroyed by the trafficking of drugs, a traffic to which some members of the Government contributed," the TUC said.

"Members concluded that the Pindling Government is corrupt, dishonest, deceitful and discredited and hence the reiteration of the demand for immediate general elections," the statement said.

The TUC also said that members unanimously elected Mr Hurie Bodye, President of the Commonwealth Union of Hotel services and Allied Workers to the vacant post of first vice president of the Congress.

Mr Bodye succeeds former Vice President Nesbitt Higgins, the ex-treasurer of the Batelco and ZNS union who resigned amidst a financial scandal earlier this year.

The Retreat also adopted the resolution put forward by the Caribbean Congress of Labour on Apartheid in South Africa, calling for an immediate end to Apartheid, the initiation of economic and other sanctions against South Africa, and for the organization of campaigns by trade unions to raise funds and initiate local activity.

It was also tentatively agreed to hold the 1986 Retreat in Exuma.

The first Retreat was held last September in Nicholls Town, North Andros, and dealt specifically with amendments to the Industrial Relations and Fair Labour Standards Acts.

"During the two days in Abaco, however, members discussed both the state of the TUC and the state of the nation," the TUC said. "The level of maturity shown by the delegates and the observers, and the quality of the discussions held, was of the highest calibre."

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 7 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Excerpts]

OFFICIAL Opposition Leader Kendal Isaacs agrees "whole-heartedly" with the "principle" expressed in the recent call by the Trade Union Congress for an "accommodation" of all political forces to oppose the PLP in the next general elections.

"I certainly agree with the principle expressed, except that they have not communicated with me directly," said the Free National Movement leader and MP for Delaporte.

"I agree whole-heartedly with the sentiments expressed," Mr Isaacs added.

The Opposition Leader said that was as far as he would go until he hears from the TUC.

"I really don't know exactly what they have in mind," he said, adding that he supposed the TUC would be getting in touch with him to provide him with details of the "accommodation."

TUC Secretary General Leonard Archer, who is also President of the Caribbean Congress of Labour, said today that it was too early to go public on the method by which such an accommodation could be achieved.

The accommodation, if achieved, would be the first alliance between labour and the opposition since pre-1967, when the union movement joined with the PLP, which was then in opposition, to defeat the former United Bahamian Party Government and achieve majority rule.

Prior to 1977, the TUC and the PLP formed an alliance called the Memorandum of Understanding in which the TUC supported the Government.

The Government abrogated the memorandum before the 1982 general elections which led to the powerful Hotel Union, two of whose members were elected to parliament under terms of the Memorandum, withdrawing from the TUC.

FNM Demonstrations

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 16 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

THE FREE National Movement was scheduled to continue its demonstrations against the PLP Government this evening at 6 pm.

The FNM will also hold a "special mass rally" Friday night at R M Bailey ball park at which party leader Kendal Isaacs, QC, will deliver "a special message for the Bahamas."

Today's demonstration is aimed at the heads of government who will be attending the dinner on Her Majesty's yacht Britannia this evening, party Secretary-General L Garth Wright Sr said early today.

"Thousands" of FNMs will

be there with their placards telling the heads of government that the PLP Government is "corrupt and has lost the moral authority to govern this country," Mr Wright said.

The area chosen for the demonstration is the road passing by the Sheraton British Colonial Hotel.

It is expected that the heads of government will pass that way on their way to the Britannia at the Prince George Dock, Mr Wright said.

"The heads of government will get an eye-full this evening.

"We will continue to demonstrate," the FNM Secretary-General said. "We don't want

Pindling to believe that he (has) any rest because we won't rest - no way."

Mr Wright called on all FNMs in New Providence to be on Bay Street this evening and noted that supporters are here from the Family Islands.

"We want the heads of government to see the ugly side of the PLP," said Mr Wright.

"What they are seeing now is not the real part of the Bahamas but they will see it this evening.

"They will get an eyeful of corruption and victimisation in its ugliest forms."

On Friday, the FNM will hold a "special mass rally" at R

M Bailey ball park. The party leader Kendal Isaacs, QC, will deliver a "special message for the Bahamian people."

Said Mr Wright, "It is going to be a traumatic night because we don't expect the Bahamas to be the same after Friday night and we're urging FNM supporters to make a special effort to attend and see for themselves

what is going to happen."

These are the last days of the PLP, said Mr Wright. And while the PLP "run up and down playing games with Choke'm," the FNM is trying to free the Bahamian people from the "yoke" imposed on them by the PLP for almost 19 years, the Secretary-General of the opposition party said.

Workers Party Petition

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 16 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

THE WORKER'S Party, a political pressure group, was in front of Mademoiselle for the second day today collecting signatures for a petition it plans to present to the Queen.

The petition, which is addressed to Elizabeth II, Queen of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, asks Queen Elizabeth to dissolve Parliament so that a general election can be held.

In December, a Commission of Inquiry, appointed to investigate drug trafficking, issued a report which found widespread corruption reaching Cabinet level. Two former Cabinet ministers were found to be involved with drug traffickers and Prime Minister Lynden Pindling received large payments for which he could not account; the Commission, which was named by Sir

Lynden, determined.

Our photograph shows a member of the Workers Party being interviewed by Bernie Diederick of Time Magazine and a representative from The Daily Telegraph of London.

The Workers Party will collect signatures from 9 am tomorrow to noon. A delegation then plans to march to HMV Britannia where, it hopes, it will be allowed to present a copy of the petition to the Queen.

The Workers Party has also been interviewed by Channel 4 and a Canadian TV station. The Canadian crew had just returned from filming the Prime Minister's multi-million dollar mansion. They asked questions about the Commission and they wanted to know where Sir Lynden got the funds to build his palatial mansion.

TUC Call for Elections

Bridgetown CANA in English 2125 GMT 20 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Nassau, 20 Oct (CANA)--The Bahamas Trade Union Congress says it will seek an accommodation of opposition parties to provide a viable alternative to the present government. TUC members have called for the government's resignation and for the holding of elections immediately.

There was no immediate government reaction to the statement.

Meanwhile, the TUC has adopted another resolution, put forward by the Caribbean Congress of Labour, calling for an immediate end to apartheid in South Africa, the initiation of economic and other sanctions against Pretoria, and for trade unions to raise funds and initiate local anti-apartheid activity.

/9274

CSO: 3298/114

BAHAMAS

PLP HOLDS 30TH ANNUAL CONVENTION; MAYNARD ELEVATED

Unanimity in Elections

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 30 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Excerpts]

FORMER Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Hanna Tuesday stepped down from the post of Deputy Leader of the ruling Progressive Liberal Party, ending two decades as the Number Two man in the PLP behind Leader and Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling.

Foreign and Tourism Minister Clement Maynard, who was earlier in the day appointed the new Deputy Prime Minister by Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash, was immediately named Deputy Leader, replacing Mr Hanna.

Occupying the positions of Deputy PLP Leader, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Tourism and Leader of the Government in the House of Assembly, Mr Maynard, 58, becomes the second most powerful man in the party under the Prime Minister.

Mr Maynard, twice Minister of Tourism, has also held Cabinet posts of Labour and Home Affairs, and Works and Utilities since he became a Minister without Portfolio in the first PLP Government formed by the Prime Minister in 1967.

Mr Hanna declined to contest the post, which Mr Maynard,

whose elevation to Deputy Prime Minister had paved the way for his nomination, won unopposed, PLP Assistant Secretary General Miss Vicki Grant said today.

According to Miss Grant, all of the other officers of the party were returned unopposed, including PLP National Chairman Senator Sean McWeeney, who had told the Press he had expected to be challenged by former Minister of Housing and National Insurance, Hubert Ingraham. Mr Ingraham laughed at the suggestion saying he had no such plans. He said he was surprised Mr McWeeney was so "politically naive" to believe he would have been interested.

It was rumoured that Mr Maynard or Minister of Works, Utilities, Housing and National Insurance Darrell Rolle would contest the position of Deputy Leader.

Speakers at previous PLP rallies had also warned that a surprise party of dissidents might develop during the convention.

But Mr Rolle, MP for Mangrove Cay, Andros, said Tuesday he had decided not to run for the deputy leader's post.

Call for Unity

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 31 Oct 85 p 8

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

INTERNAL bickering, in-fighting, dissension, mistrust and suspicion must cease if there is to be any future for the ruling Progressive Liberal Party, St Michael's MP and Deputy Speaker George Mackey told the PLP 30th annual convention Monday night.

The convention chairman also called on the leadership to conduct themselves and the affairs of the party in a manner to inspire young people to identify with it because "no future elections" in the Bahamas can be won without their support.

"By this I am not advocating a policy of appeasement or peace-at-any-price in the resolution of our differences," Mr Mackey told thousands of delegates and supporters at the Polaris Hall of the Holiday Inn Hotel, Paradise Island.

"For, there must needs be some principles and values in our organization that are sacred and, as such, must always be above compromise if the integrity and credibility of our party is to be preserved," Mr Mackey said.

He said this fact was eloquently expressed by the late "national hero" Clarence Bain, when he frequently exclaimed that: "He who stands for nothing will fall for anything."

"In this vein, if our party must be seen to stand for anything, it definitely must be seen to stand for principle, integrity and honour," Mr Mackey said. "And these sacred tenets must always be above compromise if our party is to survive, let alone continue to succeed."

Mr Mackey said the mere provision of future employment opportunities for the thousands of children at a youth rally at Clifford Park during the royal visit, "puts into dramatic focus the gigantic task ahead for our party as the government in

maintaining a steady economic growth rate to keep pace with our ever-increasing youthful population."

"When the seriousness of this situation is viewed in conjunction with the need to address on a planned and continuous basis, the twin problems of increasing criminal and drug-related activities that presently plague our land, then it should be clear to all of us that the energies of our great party must be directed towards the solution of these national maladies rather than being continually dissipated in internal in-fighting, dissension and an apparent reluctance on our part in dealing effectively and decisively with their causes," Mr Mackey said.

He said that upon leaving the convention a year ago, he had thought the problems that had brought the party so "fearfully and disunited to convention '84 were all behind us and that we would have entered 1985 with a common resolve to get on with the business of running the country and healing the wounds within our party."

"For we ought to have realized by then the needless pain and frustration we subject both our members and supporters to when we, as their elected leaders, by words and deeds appear to be dividing our party which, in the absence of an acceptable alternative, represents their only hope," Mr Mackey said.

"But, sad to say, that has not been the case...so much so that some of us are here this very night still more fearful and suspicious of each other than of the opposition," the Deputy Speaker said.

Mr Mackey told his audience that they all had benefitted, in varying degrees, from the efforts of the PLP as the government.

He said it is ironic that many of those who now oppose the

PLP and have never supported the party, have benefitted in many instances to an even greater extent than most PLPs.

"Still they have the gall to accuse us of running the Government solely for the benefit of PLPs, when in fact the majority of people who daily complain of having been overlooked and left out are actually die-hard PLPs," he said.

"But, be that as it may, the point I wish to emphasize is that just as we have all benefitted from this party, our young people who are coming up after us deserve not only the right to benefit from it likewise, but also the opportunity to make their contribution to the future development of this country through the vehicle of this great organization," he said.

"But, having trained them, having provided them with the opportunities to develop both their skills and intellect, and having broken down many barriers to enable them to perform in what, to many of us older ones, are new arenas in this their native land, it is now incumbent on us as leaders of this great organization to so conduct ourselves and the affairs of our party in such a manner that could inspire our young people to want to be identified with and to become a part of us," Mr Mackey said.

"This is most imperative for the Progressive Liberal Party for, whether we believe it or not, no future elections in this country can be won without their support," he added.

However, Mr Mackey said, to achieve this noble and imperative objective, if the future success of the PLP is to be ensured, it necessarily demands that "we get our act together this very week."

"If there is to be any future hope for this party, then the internal bickering, in-fighting, dissension, mistrust and suspi-

cion must cease," Mr Mackey said.

He said he is not so naive as to expect that the running of the party would be as smooth as that of a Sunday school because differences of opinion do occur in the smallest possible organization, and that is in the marital union between two supposedly compatible people.

"But, just as their differences are usually resolved in a sane manner that does not jeopardize matters of mutual confidence or destroy the marriage, the same can and must happen in our party, if we truly desire not only to command the respect and support of our young people, but moreso, to remain the government of this country," Mr Mackey said.

Report on Hanna Remarks

FL071615 Bridgetown CANA in English 1418 GMT 7 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Nassau, 7 Nov (CANA)--A new deputy prime minister was named, the old one was there in person to tell why he resigned after 17 years amid allegations of high-level corruption, and the opposition came out at the end of a major political broadside.

These were some of the highlights of the 30th annual convention of Prime Minister Lynden Pindling's Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) which has just ended here, with the governing party clearly still in the driver's seat.

Pindling announced the appointment of Foreign Affairs and Tourism Minister Clement Maynard, 58, as his new deputy to succeed Arthur Hanna, who stepped down a year ago as an official commission of inquiry revealed links between government officials, large scale money laundering and drug-related corruption.

It was a popular decision that drew resounding applause from the more than 2,000 delegates present for the revelation. The convention also elected Maynard to be the first new deputy leader of the PLP in 20 years, Hanna declining nomination.

Hanna told the gathering: We must come to grips...with the effects of the evidence of the commission of inquiry upon the unity and solidarity of this organization. He said the PLP had allowed the opposition Free National Movement (FNM) to interpret for the public what the commission's report said. And in doing so, they have been able to place their own interpretation upon the commission's findings, he added.

Hanna asserted that the party must at some stage demand that Bahamians be redeemed from political dishonesty and corruption, redeemed from lawlessness, neglect, unemployment, hopelessness, despair and criminality. We earned the right and privilege to govern because of what we stood for--equality, fair play and the principles embodied in the rule of law rather than the rule of men.

He told PLP supporters they could not expect to take an opposing stand at a time when political accountability and standards were being tightened and made stricter worldwide. We simply cannot afford to reduce principles which we have

laid down from the inception of our organization, he remarked. We must do what is right because it is right.

Hanna quashed any doubts about whether he would quit the PLP. He said: I always have been, and still am, a team player in the true sense of the word.

The PLP convention followed last month's Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference here and the visit of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, during which the FNM stepped up its anti-government campaign. With the Bahamas swarming with foreign journalists and world leaders, the FNM also used the opportunity to place a series of full page ads in the press here, seeking to tarnish the image of Pindling and his administration.

Some of the ads quoted directly from evidence before the corruption commission that created suspicion about the prime minister's finances and his dealings with questionable figures.

But the prime minister told the convention that even supporters of the FNM had played their part well during the commonwealth conference and the royal visit. He dubbed the political strategy of official opposition leader Kendal Isaacs as one of flim-flam.

They rejected the call from their leader to tear down their country in the eyes of the world, Pindling said, referring to FNM supporters.

Pindling claimed that Isaacs wanted thousands to demonstrate that the FNM was the major party in the country, but he did not get them because the PLP is the majority party in the country.

All he could do with his handful, said Pindling, was to show the world that the FNM is quite prepared to place pettiness over principles, politics above country and self-interest beyond the national interest.

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CSO: 3298/113

BAHAMAS

GOVERNMENT, OPPOSITION HIT FOR INACTION ON DRUGS

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 3 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by Gladstone Thurston]

[Text]

FREEPORT: Government and Opposition came under fire by Operation Hope's co-chairman Joseph Darville for not "raising a finger in the fight against drug addiction in Grand Bahama."

Mr Darville called for stiff legislation to "protect the young from the exploitation of insensitive and unscrupulous profiteering adults ... who look not to the interest of our children but solely to the dollar."

Mr Darville said he was "amazed" that neither Government nor Opposition have assisted in the fight against drug addiction in Grand Bahama.

"There has been a lot of talk but talk is cheap and one would have hoped that by now some concrete action would have taken place, at least on the level of prevention," said Mr Darville. "We have generations of young people to protect."

"How many more will we have to lose, or permit to self destruct before we intervene with a positive programme to fortify them against this dreaded disease."

Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre in New Providence, he said, can only accommodate Grand Bahama's addicts to a very limited degree.

"We are asked to run a pre-admission programme for three weeks to assure that the addicts remain drug free for this

period of time before we seek admission for them to Sandilands," he said. "This is practically impossible. We have no holding facility for the drug addicts."

"We operate solely on the basis of voluntary help and to expect our addicts, under the present circumstances, to remain drug free for three weeks is like asking a man thrown in the midst of a harem of nymphomaniacs to remain chaste."

"Matters will be much easier if we had on our books legislation to protect the young from the exploitation of insensitive and unscrupulous profiteering adults, since these self serving profiteers of drug supplying establishments, legal or otherwise, look not to the interest of our children but solely to the dollar," said Mr Darville. "We need to initiate laws or at least enforce those which now exist to protect our young from these wanton people."

He said he was amazed that the cocaine trade continues to prosper through the various pushers whom he said seem to be untouchable.

"Very little as far as prevention is concerned is accomplished by busting the individual caught with a (marijuana) joint or a small rock (cocaine)," said Mr Darville.

BAHAMAS

NEGATIVE PUBLICITY FELT TO BE HARMING TOURISM

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 10 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

TOURISM could be headed for a tailspin after two years of negative publicity about the Bahamas.

The Ministry of Tourism said yesterday that air arrivals to New Providence plunged by 14.6 per cent in September over the corresponding period last year, while the figure for Grand Bahama was down 8 per cent.

And, while 1,500 Hotel Corporation rooms on Cable Beach have been taken off the market from October 7-24 for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference, Resorts International, which operates four hotels on Paradise Island, is not projecting any increase in occupancy over last year's October occupancy figure.

In addition to the four Government-owned hotels, it is understood that only a portion of the Nassau Beach Hotel will be open for a Commonwealth Press Union conference, which starts Monday.

Although the Ministry said that Family Island figures are not available, The Tribune understands that the number of visitors in September declined by approximately:

- 65 per cent in Cat Cay.
- 20 per cent in Bimini.
- 15 per cent in Rock Sound.
- 20 per cent in North Eleuthera.

Figures for October so far do not look good.

The Ministry said that air arrivals for the entire Bahamas increased by 14.7 per cent in September 1984 over the same month the previous year.

This means that the number of visitors who arrived by air in September 1985, dropped to the 1983 level.

Air arrivals to New Providence in September stood at 42,320 compared to 49,560 in the same month the previous year.

The Ministry said that such negative publicity as a recent Cable Network News story alerting visitors to be cautious because of terrorism and drug trafficking in various countries, including the Bahamas, adversely affects our number one industry.

"Although the United States Department of State has confirmed that no negative advisory has been made regarding travel to the Bahamas and CNN

has been corrected on the story, the harm has already been done," the Ministry said.

In these circumstances, Minister Clement Maynard has appealed to those interested in the welfare of the country to help project the kind of image and publicity that will not harm the country or sensitive tourism industry.

Mr Maynard was presumably trying to influence Opposition supporters, who have been asked to demonstrate against Government corruption starting with the Queen's arrival tomorrow.

It is highly unlikely, if not impossible, that the CNN broadcast could, at this point, have had a negative impact on Bahamas tourism.

As far as it could be determined, the first CNN advisory about the Bahamas was aired in mid-September. The department dealing with statistical information said that the decline in air arrivals to New Providence began during the first week of September, and during the first 12 days in Grand Bahama.

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CSO: 3298/114

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

WORKERS PARTY RALLY—Workers Party chairman Rodney Moncur today announced that his party will hold a "Choke 'Em and Burn 'Em Rally" tonight on Hospital Lane, south of Poinciana Drive, in Black Village. The Workers Party, which tried to deliver a petition to Her Majesty the Queen asking her to dissolve Parliament, is upset that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, and New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange agreed to the Commonwealth Heads conference being held in Nassau in view of the compromised position of the Bahamas government. "Thatcher, Hawke, Mulroney and Lange, as responsible international leaders, should have boycotted the conference which is being hosted by Sir Lynden, in protest of the scandal which Pindling and his government have found themselves in," said Mr Moncur. Speakers at tonight's rally will include Philip Miller, Necolia Jacques, Henry Dummett, Gus Fountain, Christopher Evans, Allen Strachan, and Rodney Moncur. [Text] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 19 Oct 85 p 1] /9274

ATTACK ON MP'S HOME—The headquarters of Free National Movement MP, Mrs Janet Bostwick, was broken into last night. Mrs Bostwick reported that about \$1,000 worth of property was stolen, and the building vandalised. The vandals are believed to have entered the Yamacraw building some time last night. They entered by breaking the lock on the back door, and moving out of the way a large refrigerator placed in front of the door to prevent illegal entry. The robbers escaped with a new water pump and holding tank, and some bathroom fixtures. They also spray painted obscene words over the poster of FNM leader Kendal G L Isaacs. Vandals have broken into the Free National Headquarters at least eight times, according to Mrs Bostwick. "We find it almost impossible to keep the headquarters going," he said. "They are trying to frustrate us. But I am not going to move. I am going to dig in. They can't get rid of me, not that way." [Text] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 Oct 85 p 1] /9274

CSO: 3298/115

BRAZIL

PLANNING MINISTER IMPLEMENTS NEW SALARY FORMULA

PY121735 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1450 GMT 12 Nov 85

[By Maria Sida]

[Text] As of 1 January, salaries will be readjusted on the basis of the 6-month consumer price index [INPC] of the previous month. Thus, in January salaries will be readjusted on the basis of the 6-month INPC of December. This system is being enforced through a resolution that Planning Minister Joao Sayad has just signed here in Sao Paulo. Under the previous system, salaries were readjusted on the basis of the 6-month INPC in force 2 months before the readjustment.

Through the same resolution, the minister also created the INPC Council, which will be made up of workers, businessmen, and free-lance professionals. The council will analyze, evaluate, and propose the improvement of the methods used by the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics] for estimating the INPC. The minister's resolution has thus granted two old union demands.

Sayad also released some figures on the Brazilian economy for 1985. According to him, the country will grow 7 percent. All the figures he gave are positive, although the public deficit is also positive. Sayad said that measures must be taken in 1986 to keep the deficit from growing.

Brazil will hold new negotiations with the IMF on the foreign debt to help maintain the 7-percent growth rate.

According to Sayad, the most significant achievement of the Brazilian economy in 1985 has been the restoration of the level of employment in the industrial sector.

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CSO: 3342/25

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

LANDOWNERS' 'MILITIAS'--Minister for Land Affairs Nelson Ribeiro today visited Sao Paulo, where he had lunch with leaders of rural workers, and met with representatives of the Movement of the Landless at the National Institute of Land Reform and Settlement building. Minister Ribeiro read a report prepared by the Sao Paulo Federation of Rural Workers charging that leading Sao Paulo landowners are seeking to form private militias and to purchase arms to prevent the settlement of farmers on their land. Ribeiro criticized the position taken by the landowners and noted that the agrarian reform promoted by the Democratic Alliance will be implemented peacefully. [By Cecilia Cleb] [Excerpt] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 7 Nov 85 PY]

PFL TEMPORARY REGISTRATION--Brasilia--The Superior Electoral Court (TSE) last night unanimously approved a petition for temporary registration filed for the Liberal Front Party (PFL), granting it a 1-year deadline for its final establishment. Whereas the PFL had met the provisions of the current Organic Law of Political Parties for obtaining a temporary registration, the TSE decided not to wait until the new law is enacted. The decision approved the opinion of Attorney General Jose Paulo Sepulveda Pertence and rejected the objection of Deputy Marcelo Linhares, who had asked the TSE not to consider the petition. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Nov 85 p 2 PY]

PARA OFFICIALS PAY DAMAGES--Judge Pedro Paulo Martins, of the 15th Civil Court of Belem, yesterday issued a ruling ordering Para State Governor Jader Barbalho and Land Affairs Minister Nelson Ribeiro to pay 1.3 billion cruzeiros in damages to the Para State treasury for having expropriated the Aura farm. With interest, court expenses, monetary correction, and lawyers' fees the amount to be paid could total more than 10 billion cruzeiros. The expropriated enterprise will also have to return the 700 million cruzeiros it had received from the government, plus interest and monetary correction. The judge ruled that the governor and the minister--who was then president of the Para State Bank--had committed "an unprecedented, grossly illegal action" to the detriment of the Para State treasury by irregularly approving the expropriation of the Aura enterprise to benefit its owner, a friend of Governor Barbalho. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Nov 85 p 1 PY]

POSSIBLE INCREASED IMPORTS--Itamaraty has announced that Brazil intends to increase its imports from Western Europe and Japan in 1986. However, Brazil will place additional orders only with those countries that offer credits. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 12 Nov 85 PY]

SOVIET MISSION TO ARRIVE--The Rio Doce Valley Company [CVRD] will expand its sales to Far Eastern countries. To this end, a Brazilian trade mission has gone to Beijing to hold talks with PRC officials. The information was released today in Rio de Janeiro by CVRD President Eliezer Batista, who also announced that a Soviet mission will come to Brazil on 16 November to negotiate for the purchase of iron ore. [Text] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 8 Nov 85 PY]

NEW FUNAI CHAIRMAN--Apoena Meirelles has been installed as chairman of the National Indian Foundation (FUNAI). He replaces Alvaro Villas Boas, who has been dismissed. [Summary] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 6 Nov 85 PY]

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CSO: 3342/25

CHILE

FORMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ADMITS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE

Lima EL NACIONAL in Spanish 28 Sep 85 p 14

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 27 September--A former agent of the Chilean secret service revealed his participation in psychological torture in an interview published by the daily LA PRENSA AUSTRAL of Punta Arenas.

Former agent Otto Silvio Trujillo Miranda, a 37-year-old married man with four children, was being held until yesterday at the Punta Arenas jail, 2,500 kilometers south of Santiago, on charges of forging currency.

It was there that he granted the interview published by LA PRENSA AUSTRAL in its Wednesday edition, which was received today in this capital city.

Otto Silvio Trujillo confessed to LA PRENSA AUSTRAL that between 1974 and 1976, when he was an official of the Chilean Air Force Intelligence Office (DIFACH), he participated in psychological torture practiced on arrested suspects. He stated that the suspects were usually members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), but he denied having inflicted physical torture in most cases.

During that period, the initial years of the military regime, more arrests and disappearances took place than at any other time. Various sources indicate that nearly 1,000 such incidents occurred.

The former agent compared physical torture to psychological torture in his statements, and said that in his opinion psychological torture is worse. "It is the most dreadful thing; people usually fell apart under that torture," he claimed.

Going into detail, he added that the cries of the victim's baby would be simulated, and finally they would be cut off.

"I saw units and teams that did interrogations, but the specialty was psychological torture. Everything was psychological; that doesn't leave marks or bruises.

"I would arrive, and begin the interrogation. We would find out that the person had two children and a wife. Then we would go to his house, ask any old thing, and the wife would begin to talk.

"We would say to the kids, 'You want to send a message to your daddy?'"

The former agent added that afterwards, the recordings would be doctored, so that the voice would be the same but the victim would think his family was also being subjected to torture.

He said that psychological torture was the perfect tool, because all extremists were prepared to be interrogated. "They give you Pentathol, but you're aware that they're giving you Pentathol."

He added that beating people up does not get through to them, and especially not electric shocks, because the kind of current used can be withstood easily.

In the interview, former Agent Trujillo revealed the location of secret detention centers he knew of, such as the so-called Headquarters No. 2 that was in La Moneda (the government palace), under the Plaza de la Constitucion.

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CSO: 3348/96

CHILE

FORMER PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER ON CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT ISSUES

Santiago COSAS in Spanish 17 Oct 85 pp 12-13

[Interview with Carmen Frei, daughter of former President Eduardo Frei, by Raquel Correa; date, time and place not given]

[Text] She never needed to ask herself whether she was interested in politics; she simply lived and breathed politics. Her earliest political memory is her father's campaign for senator in Atacama and Coquimbo in 1949. "The whole family went to spend the summer in the north, and I was surprised to see so many people around."

She is straightforward and friendly, although a little serious and certainly shy, and everyone says she closely resembles her father. Her way of speaking, her gestures, they say. Since she venerates his memory, she is pleased that they find his likeness in her, but she makes it clear that she has her own identity. The most political of all the children of former President Eduardo Frei shares Christian Democratic ideals with her husband, Eugenio Ortega. A member of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) National Council, she has personally taken on the task of actively involving women--"and on an equal footing." "They are pretty macho in this party," she complains.

[Question] As a politician, what legacy do you feel you inherited?

[Answer] His ideas. But along with projecting my father's image, I feel responsible for conveying my own image, so that people will realize that he helped people grow. I do not intend to be a shadow of what he was.

[Question] The fact that you ran on the same slate as Gabriel Valdes, and not Juan Hamilton, in your party's internal elections drew a lot of attention. Do you belong to the more progressive, more leftist wing?

[Answer] I would not say more progressive in that sense, but more modern, projecting the message of Christian humanism into the future. In that sense, I feel that my position is one of great renewal.

[Question] Personally, do you feel more comfortable with the left or the right?

[Answer] Well, during these past years, one has spent more time with people who have suffered, who have lost family members. On the other hand, the right appears so harsh, so insensitive, as if it is not aware of what is happening . . . There are people who don't know, for example, that some Chileans have been stripped of their citizenship, who know no one who has suffered the loss of a loved one through disappearance . . .

Communism

[Question] Let's look at the present. The president of the Christian Democrats, Gabriel Valdes, said in his 50th anniversary speech that the Christian Democratic movement has "irreconcilable differences" with the Communist Party. According to him, those irreconcilable differences "concern its model of society, its philosophical and practical ideas regarding the rights of man and the role of the state, civil society and the prevalence of social and political pluralism." He went on to say that "We definitely have opposing views on the means or ends involved in winning justice and liberty." How could these "irreconcilable differences" be resolved in specific cases to forge alliances with them in the Student Federation of Chile (FECH) last year, in the Student Federation of Concepcion a short time ago, and possibly in the next FECH election?

[Answer] The government is engaged in a campaign to confuse people. It is always trying to get us Christian Democrats to take a stand on communism, something we did many years ago. In a letter my father wrote to Corvalan in 1953, our relations with the Communist Party were set forth very clearly. And Valdes is very correct in saying that our model of society is completely different from that of the Communists, and we will never be able to stand on the same ground because they have a different concept of man and society. Moreover, if they opt for violence--as they have when they have invaded countries--we will never be involved in that.

[Question] So you agree with Valdes that there are irreconcilable differences . . .

[Answer] In terms of the society we want to build, yes. Irreconcilable. We are different, and we will always be different.

[Question] How can you explain, then, the fact that those differences were overcome well enough to form alliances with them?

[Answer] They exist in the country's national and political life, and we will never advocate eliminating them. That would be the worst way to deal with the problem. So we must encourage them to commit themselves to a democratic life, to repudiate violence as they have done in other countries (as they did in Spain when they signed the Moncloa Pact, and they have honored that commitment). That is the relationship we want to have with the Chilean Communist Party. If they agree to play the democratic game, in a democracy they have to obey rules and conditions. Otherwise, they will have to be prosecuted.

[Question] But at this time in Chile, they have advocated violence as a political strategy.

[Answer] We do not have any pacts with them. But there are situations in labor unions or student associations where all are united in working toward specific goals. There may be a political alliance at a given moment in that context.

[Question] That alliance unraveled recently in the FECH elections, however. Why?

[Answer] That is a consequence of what we were talking about. The Christian Democratic youths proposed joining together with the Communists as long as they agreed to sign the National Agreement and the Communist Party Central Committee agreed to support the signing of the document. Since they decided not to sign, we will not go into the FECH elections with them.

[Question] If they had signed, would there have been an alliance with them?

[Answer] If they signed it and were willing to adhere to it. But in the beginning they said they would sign it, and then they had second thoughts and said no.

[Question] So was it actually the Communist Party that pulled out of the alliance with the Christian Democrats in the FECH elections, and not the Christian Democratic Party?

[Answer] Yes. Because by not signing the Agreement and committing itself to abandoning violence, the Communist Party disrupted unity at the University.

[Question] Some think that the Christian Democrats broke up the alliance under pressure from rightists who had signed the National Agreement, especially the National Union.

[Answer] That is absolutely false. The young university students in the party talked to the national board of directors, but in the end it was they who made the decision, without pressure. At a meeting of the National Council, all the conditions were discussed, because a party must be responsible. But we had no reason to succumb to any pressure, particularly from the right. As Valdes said in his anniversary speech, the rightists are armchair anti-communists, but that is very different from being with them day after day in the universities and towns, as we are. One must learn to work and apply one's principles, because the worst strategy is to destroy the enemy. That is the government's position: to make the people think we are divided between good and bad, and that the bad must simply be destroyed by the good. I am not afraid to confront the Communists in the area of ideas; when one is firm in one's convictions, one can uphold them and try to convince others to play the democratic game.

Reconciliation with All

[Question] Among the signatories of the National Agreement, there are sectors that cannot believe the Communist Party is capable of truly participating in the democratic game. Would you have favored that alliance in the University, even at the risk of destroying the Agreement?

[Answer] If the Communists had favored a democratic position and had really fulfilled their commitment, I see no reason why we could not have an electoral pact with them. You know? In addition, I understand reconciliation as including everyone. I do not perceive the archbishop's reconciliation as being with some and not others. I think that to make this a viable country, reconciliation has to be with all. In the case of the young university students, I am impressed by their maturity and clarity. It has not been easy for the young Christian Democrats to work with the Communist Party in the FECH this year, because often it does not do what it says it will. But I think that we must strive to make them understand. Moreover, it is the youths themselves who realize when someone is insincere. And I believe that the Communists' insincerity at the University (often they say one thing and do another) will lose them a lot of votes.

Difficult Agreement

[Question] With regard to the Agreement, Jaime Guzman claims that the problem is not that it does not require explanations, but that it does not resist them . . .

[Answer] I am absolutely frank and clear on that. I am for reconciliation, and if I have to reconcile with Mr Guzman--something I confess is quite difficult for me--I will do it, because I am convinced that the country needs that. We must try to return to the coexistence we had before, without saying a priori "yes to these, no to those." Because what is the solution? Send the Communists into exile? When we look at the other side of the coin, what are we going to do with Jaime Guzman and the others? Won't they have the right to exist in this country? . . . Because Jaime Guzman arouses hatred that will have to be contained in the future . . . To understand situations, we must look at both sides of the coin.

[Question] Do you think the Agreement can withstand a lot of challenges?

[Answer] This document is the foundation, with very specific points, for building a national consensus. And I think that the consensus will undergo some very difficult times, because there are too many things we need to agree upon . . . The important thing is that there were generous people capable of seeing clearly and heeding the archbishop's call. I am hopeful that the wrinkles will be ironed out gradually . . . But it is not easy. Furthermore, I think the government is determined to destroy it.

[Question] In your opinion, is the purpose of the Agreement to form a multi-party opposition that will pose an alternative to the government, or do you think it is aiming at an understanding with the government?

[Answer] At this time, we cannot expect more of the Agreement than what it is: a document designed to launch a dialogue about a democratic solution for the country. Reach an understanding with the government? . . . Judging by its actions, I would say that that is getting more and more difficult. I think it will never accept the Agreement. But if it catches on throughout Chile, it cannot be ignored.

[Question] Do you think reconciliation is possible?

[Answer] I think it is getting more possible every day, but there is still a long way to go . . . Because I think that Chilean society has been too deeply wounded. It is a personal ordeal for me. It has not been easy for me to reconcile myself with a left that treated us very harshly in the past. In addition, it is hard for me to reconcile myself with rightists who were also very harsh and very blind. But I believe that the strength of reconciliation lies in that difficulty; otherwise it wouldn't make any sense. One reconciles oneself with those who are not friends; it is not necessary to reconcile oneself with friends. One must be faithful to this effort, or this country has no hope.

Controversial Mobilization

[Question] Another controversial issue that involves the Democratic Alliance, the Christian Democrats and now the Agreement as well, is social mobilization. What is your stand on that?

[Answer] Social mobilization is absolutely legitimate, and oftentimes indispensable. Social mobilization is not the same as agitation and violence. Mobilization is the organization of society to seek solutions peacefully.

[Question] But every time social mobilization has been attempted, acts of violence have occurred . . .

[Answer] The fact is, at this time there is no freedom to engage in peaceful protest. Every time we begin to launch a peaceful protest, there is repression, and naturally people react also. I have been in towns after the security and police forces have been in, and I have seen the state of the houses: They go in and destroy everything. Then people organize to defend themselves. I do not approve of violence, but I think it is legitimate for people to defend themselves when they know that tanks are going to be brought to the edge of town and armed groups are going to come in and destroy their property.

[Question] Precisely because of what you are explaining--a call to protest results in repression and violence--don't you think it is irresponsible to insist on social mobilization as a method?

[Answer] We have to ensure that the mobilization is truly peaceful, so that democracy can be achieved.

[Question] They have practically never been really peaceful . . .

[Answer] Unfortunately, the consequences have always been violent, I recognize that. But they have been violent because the government has wanted them to be.

[Question] Following that line of reasoning, one could conclude that social mobilization in Chile has not been peaceful. So it is fair to ask, is it reasonable to continue calling for social mobilization?

[Answer] It is terrible to think that deaths occur, but the country cannot become paralyzed with fear.

[Question] Is there no other way?

[Answer] We have already tried all the ways. All kinds of declarations, documents, meetings, and letters have been tried. In the realm of words, the search has been exhausted. In the sphere of the courts, some judges investigate cases diligently, but thousands of cases end up in nothing. Most of them do. Thus--and this is what is so terrible--the government is shutting off all roads to us, and in the end we could end up in a process of violence like what the Central American countries are undergoing. When all avenues are closed, violence is the only alternative left. And that is the worst thing that could happen to Chile.

[Question] Given that there has been a call for reconciliation and a multi-party agreement has been signed, isn't that contradictory . . . ?

[Answer] It appears to be contradictory. And it is difficult to grasp that situation. But is there anything more peaceful than Gandhi's sit-ins? Nevertheless, anyone who participates in a sit-in here is sprayed, beaten, and jailed . . . if not shot. Four of our leaders are imprisoned unjustly, as was proven when the university students who were arrested on the same charges were released. We have a responsibility to them, and no one can prevent us from proclaiming solidarity days for them.

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CSO: 3348/108

CHILE

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS' ARRIAGADA: BACKGROUND, COMMENTS

Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish 17 Oct 85 pp 14-17

[Interview with Christian Democrat Genaro Arriagada by Gloria Stanley; date, time and place not given]

[Text] Personality

His voice is one of the most influential in his party, the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), and his opinions are heeded and respected in political circles outside the PDC. His power lies not so much in holding important posts (he declined to run for vice-president of the PDC), but rather in the weight of his ideas and arguments--the product of a rigorous and systematic education--and in an innate business sense that makes him an efficient administrator of the businesses he controls. He is one of those politicians who are able to maintain an active party life while at the same time constantly updating their knowledge. With an almost "platonic" sense of politics, he holds a variety of positions in his group and on its fringes on an ad honorem basis. As he points out, "with my books and Ana Maria's job, we have enough to live decently." He describes himself as "somewhat neurotic," and confesses that what depresses him most is cruelty, vulgarity. He manages to overcome his periods of depression--which few notice--by working or writing on his personal computer. He claims to be an agnostic: "I have never had faith; since I was old enough to reason, I was asked why I did not believe. A short time ago I answered a few friends of mine who are priests: 'You yourselves say that faith is a gift. Well, I don't have that gift. So if I don't have the gift, don't chastise me for not having received it.'

His Life

Genaro Arriagada was only 6 years old when his father died. His only memory of him was that he was "intelligent, read a lot, and was very scornful of money, even though he was a man of considerable fortune." He is very close to his mother, however. He admires her energy, her generosity, and her drive, which enabled her to face widowhood at the age of 26 and support her four children. Genaro Arriagada recalls that when her business went sour, his mother went into farming. Then she tried her luck in the canning industry. When she lost everything, she decided to sell stock. "But there was always a

very good family relationship in our home, with lots of affection. We lived modestly."

He went to preparatory school at the Colegio San Gabriel, and studied the humanities at the Instituto Barros Arana ("a remarkable experience and a good decision on the part of my mother, because one had to learn to survive on one's own there"). When he finished those studies, he entered law school at the University of Chile.

At 14 years of age, he was a Radical. Probably inspired by his uncle Alfredo Larrain, "a great Radical speaker, absolutely unselfish, very interested in politics, but unsuccessful in it." When the Radicals joined the Alessandri government, Genaro Arriagada quit the Radical Party (PR) along with Ricardo Lagos, Jorge Arrate and other political figures, many of whom joined the Socialist Party. He felt attracted to Christian Democracy, which he decided to join because its values "are the constants in our civilization." This would become his home and the springboard of his great passion: politics.

Unusual Question

[Question] If you could be a historical figure, who would you like to have been?

[Answer] It sounds pretentious to place oneself in the shoes of a historical personage. But if I were asked who was the most interesting person in history, I would say it was the Greek Alcibiades, philosopher, orator, politician, soldier. He did everything, and did it well.

Ideal/Passion

Politics. His vision is based on principles he considers non-negotiable, rooted in a humanist-democratic policy "that makes them incompatible with any revolutionary position." It is a tolerant policy that does not aim to change the world through an act of power. He respects his limitations, behaves moderately, and has a healthy dose of prudence and common sense. "Policies that have a messianic element, that claim to be masters of the truth; the policies of the purist, the intransigent, the vanguard, although they invoke grandiose ideals, are doomed to violate the essence of a humanist policy and the essence of democracy."

Lifestyle

It can be summed up in a few words: active on the job, active in social affairs, active in family matters. He jealously guards the privacy of his family life, asserting that he is happy in it. He and his wife, dentist Ana Maria Urzua, share "the same friends and the same things."

Key Dates

1965: Immersed in the enthusiasm and idealism of the Young Fatherland generation that swept Frei into office ("a generation that saw the final days of the Republic before extremist polarization took over in 1969"), at 22 years

of age he served as cabinet chief for Economy Minister Domingo Santa Maria. In that job, "We accomplished a lot, we learned a lot, and we also made mistakes."

1969: His first book, "Oligarquia Patronal en Chile" [Paternalistic Oligarchy in Chile], was published. This would be the beginning of an intense literary career. His principal books were "De la via chilena a la via insurreccional" [From the Chilean Way to the Way of Insurrection] (1974); "Pensamiento politico de los militares" [Political Thought of the Military] (1983); and "Chile: un sistema politico futuro" [Chile: A Future Political System] (1985). His books were accompanied by innumerable publications in newspapers and academic journals in Spanish, English and German.

1970: He became very active in the field of communications, which he continues today in some cases. In charge of the PDC department of communications, he also served on the boards of Radio Cooperativa, the daily LA PRENSA, and Radio Balmaceda. He was named president of the Millahue advertising agency, which was owned by the Christian Democrats. This period would be a milestone in his life; it was then that he met the man who would become his dear friend, Claudio Orrego, and Eduardo Frei, who would exert a lasting influence on him.

1975: Along with Claudio Orrego, he founded the Editorial Aconcagua publishing house. In 1979 he would become its president.

1976-85: He was appointed to the PDC Political Committee, a post he was to hold until 1985.

1978: The year of his "intellectual retreat" in the United States, when he received a fellowship at the Wilson Center in Washington. This was the only time he was out of Chilean politics, but during this period he established his most important ties with the U.S. academic and intellectual community.

1979: He was named director of Radio Cooperativa. He began the complete restructuring of the radio station, until it became the second-most popular station in the country.

Interview

[Question] What is your diagnosis, as a political scientist, of the country's current situation?

[Answer] I see a government that is quite paralyzed, unable to devise a coherent policy to deal with the crisis in the country. It has already tried everything available. It tried political liberalization, which it could attempt again today, but at a much higher cost than it had to pay in August 1983. Then there was the formula of solving political problems with economic measures, which was the dream of the Jarpa-Escobar team. They asserted that the country's political difficulties were a matter for the upper echelons to deal with, not real problems; and that the real problems were the debts, so debtors had to be given financial aid. The narrow limitations imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) eliminated the possibility of any populism

today. And finally, it tried the state of siege formula, which was also a failure in that it solved neither the political problems nor the problems of violence. On the contrary, it generated a whole series of new, very disturbing problems, such as the excesses of the security agencies. This led to the case of the decapitations, the Randolph case, and all the cases that are in the courts now. They cost the regime the loyalty of sectors that have traditionally backed it. The country's tragedy is that we find ourselves with a government that is very strong militarily, but weak on the civil front. We also have an opposition that is extremely strong in the civil sphere, but comes up against a complicated wall in the form of the military: obedient, impulsive, monolithic, loyal to its commander in chief.

[Question] And does the Agreement put an end to that situation?

[Answer] The Agreement creates a new historical setting that is very important for the country.

[Question] Some see too much disagreement within the Agreement for it to become an instrument that can change the country's course . . .

[Answer] That means we want the Agreement to be a monolithic block in which we are in harmony not only with respect to what the text says, but also on minor issues that are beyond its scope. That would mean seeking uniformity, which will never--thank God--exist in Chilean society. The important aspect of the Agreement, in my opinion, is that people who have been at loggerheads for the past four decades, who have had different historical commitments--some have venerated Alessandri, others Allende, others Frei--who belong to different philosophical traditions, have reached a good understanding among themselves despite their differences. This is what happened in Europe after World War II. Agreements of this type helped the European countries recover from the great collective political tragedies that were inflicted by fascism, Stalinism and militarism.

[Question] But this Agreement has not even generated enough cooperation to take a united stand on a university election . . .

[Answer] Unfortunately, and mostly because of publicity stunts, we find ourselves today in the face of a rather anomalous situation: An election of the Student Federation of Chile (FECH) has become a political football. In a normal country, an election of this sort would not be of interest to a conglomeration of groups such as those who signed the Agreement.

[Question] But it provides an opportunity to define positions. For example, relations with the Communist Party (PC). The Christian Democrats looked into the possibility of an alliance with the PC. How did the idea get started?

[Answer] I can state categorically that I do not like electoral pacts that contradict definitions of principle. Nevertheless, I believe that there is a problem that will have to be discussed frankly at some point: the problem of the PC. This does not mean that I do not entirely subscribe to the contents of the Agreement. But I think that feasible and honorable formulas for

coexistence must be sought. Whether we like it or not, the Communist Party represents 10 to 15 percent of the country.

[Question] So you also concede that the Agreement is not very clear on many points?

[Answer] It's not that it's not clear enough, it's just very brief. A country's problems cannot be resolved with a document of that length. Undoubtedly the clearest thing is intransigence. "You swallow your pride and give up everything" is the way of intransigence. The Agreement follows a different logic, the one that says: "The country needs for us to be capable of agreeing on a solution that is good for Chile, so we are willing to make mutual concessions." That is the logic of negotiation.

[Question] A negotiation that depends on how the sectors within the Agreement develop.

[Answer] I don't think that's the problem. Negotiation requires mutual concessions, not locking oneself into intransigent positions. It requires that both sides be aware of their position and their power. That is why I think Chile's number one problem today, the one standing in the way of any negotiation, is the fact that the government and some forces within it demand that the signatories of the Agreement abdicate their thoughts and beliefs.

[Question] The UDI [expansion unknown] contends that these are just clarifications, not concessions. One of the things it wants clarified is the position on the 31 January ruling of the Constitutional Court, which declared the MDP [expansion unknown] unconstitutional.

[Answer] Well, in the modern world, a dictatorship is a constitutional dictatorship. Such is the case with the Soviet Union. Now if some people think that everything that is legal is just, then they would have to admit that because Walesa's opposition in Poland is illegal, it is unjust. I believe the opposite. Consequently, a number of acts that are legal according to the 1980 Constitution are still unjust. Why do I have to accept as just the expulsions decreed under Transitory Article 24, although they are legal because they are stipulated in the 1980 Constitution? Article 8 seems unjust to me.

[Question] But some signatories of the Agreement consider it appropriate.

[Answer] There are people who believe the PC should be excluded from any event. What the Agreement states is different. It indicates that any movement whose objectives, actions or conduct reflect a lack of respect for a series of democratic principles will be excluded. The universal experience is that the PC can set forth objectives that are compatible not only with a democracy, but also a monarchy. Such is the case in Spain and Norway, where the PC recognizes the monarchy.

[Question] But Chile's experience after Popular Unity has left Chileans with fears that the European democracies do not share.

[Answer] The history of the PC in Chile has been marked by different stages. In 1968, there was practically no violence in the country; there were no political assassinations or terrorist acts. Given that context, there was no problem in maintaining that party within the legal framework. Now, if the PC supports the policy of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front and the alternative of taking up weapons, there is no doubt that its objectives would cause it to be declared unconstitutional. There is more security in Italy and Spain, with a moderate, legal PC, than in Batista's Cuba or Somoza's Nicaragua, with a PC that had turned to guerrilla warfare and had been outlawed and subject to martial law.

[Question] That is not what Allamand or Leniz thinks.

[Answer] I would not want to interpret the opinions of either of them. But precisely because I have respect and consideration for them, it doesn't matter if I have some differences with them. I see no problem in subtle differences among the signatories.

[Question] Let's talk more about those subtle differences. There is also no unanimity on the length of the current presidential term.

[Answer] The Agreement says nothing about that. But to those who bring up that issue, I say that from the political point of view, the length of the presidential term is not just a legal question. There are famous cases of people who resign under pressure for moral reasons, to give the country a way out. We recently witnessed the case of the president of Panama. Without going any further, even the members of the current UDI, even though they recognize the Constitution of 1925, called for Salvador Allende's resignation in 1973.

[Question] Jaime Guzman asked nine questions of those who signed the Agreement. Specifically, he asked what constitutional mechanism the signatories advocate to regulate the role of the military in the future democracy.

[Answer] If a country wants to have professional, efficient armed forces, it has to keep them out of politics. Consequently, I would accuse those who want to keep the military in politics of destroying its military values, its prestige, and its effectiveness in fulfilling its objectives. In the United States as well as the USSR, Israel as well as the Federal Republic of Germany, France as well as Great Britain, the armed forces are subject to the control of the political authorities, and remain outside the day-to-day disputes of politics.

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CHILE

15 STEPS REQUIRED FOR ENACTMENT OF BILL INTO LAW

Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish 17 Oct 85 pp 18-19

[Article by Catalina Correa R.]

[Text] On 11 March 1981, the Government Junta became the constituent and legislative branch of government. As such, the first thing it did was to enact Law 17,983, which "establishes the working organs of the Government Junta and regulations for legislative procedures."

The final product of this work is legislation, which we all know about. Little is known, however, about what happens in between. QUE PASA looked into the matter:

Steps

1. The Message (if it is a bill originated by the president) or Motion (if it arises out of the initiative of a member of the Government Junta) is sent.
2. The Secretariat of Legislation (SL), the working organ of the Government Junta, studies the document and processes it. After the legal aspects of the bills are studied in form and content, a report is sent to the Junta.
3. The proposal is submitted to the full Government Junta for its consideration.
4. The Government Junta resolves or agrees to legislate the matter, and determines the urgency classification of the Message or Motion. In certain cases, it also indicates whether the bill should be dealt with by a joint committee, made up of representatives of each of the Legislative Committees.
5. The measure is sent back to the SL with the relevant observations and resolutions.
6. From there it is sent to a specific committee (the "reporting committee") and a copy is sent to all other committees.
7. The committees study and resolve questions about the bill.

8. The reporting committee submits its report to the SL. During this period there is feedback, so the other committees can also make comments that the SL will pass on to the reporting committee.

9. The SL drafts the final version of the bill.

10. The SL submits it to the Government Junta for consideration.

11. The full Junta analyzes and studies the bill, and votes on it. Passage requires a unanimous vote.

11-A. If there is no unanimity, the bill is defeated, although in most cases the Executive is told to withdraw the bill under discussion and reconsider it (in which case it goes through the legislative process again), or it is simply rejected.

12. The president of the Government Junta sends the bill to the president of the republic through the SL, so that he can approve it or veto it. If he approves it, it is enacted into law.

12-A. If it is a constitutional or interpretive organic bill, it is submitted to the Constitutional Court. If the latter makes any objections that affect the bill as a whole, the Junta must order it tabled. If the objections are only partial, the challenged portions are eliminated.

13. If the bill is approved by the Constitutional Court, it is enacted into law and returned to the SL to be assigned the appropriate number.

14. The bill is submitted to the General Comptroller's Office to be recorded.

15. The bill is finally submitted to the Official Gazette for publication.

What Is Legislated?

1. Ordinary bills, which can be initiated by the president of the republic or any member of the Junta.

2. Constitutional and interpretive organic laws, which can only be initiated by the president of the republic.

3. "Qualified Quorum" bills, which can only be initiated by the president of the republic.

Legislative Committees

First Legislative Committee: Constitution; Economy, Development and Reconstruction; Finance; Mining.

Second Legislative Committee: Education; Justice; Labor and Social Benefits; Health.

Third Legislative Committee: Agriculture; Public Works; National Assets; Housing and Urban Development.

Fourth Legislative Committee: Interior; Foreign Relations; National Defense; Transportation and Telecommunications.

Junta's Processing Deadlines

Extremely Urgent: 15 days.

Urgent: 60 days.

Non-urgent: 180 days.

Special Procedure: 15 days (when the prevailing interest of the state so demands, one or more steps are eliminated).

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CHILE

LIMITS ON BASES IN ANTARCTICA PROPOSED

PY092132 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 27 Oct 85 p C3

[Excerpts] Chile has proposed that in the future no more bases be installed on King George Island, South Shetland Islands, where there are now seven scientific stations from various countries.

Pedro Romero Julio, the director of the Chilean Antarctic Institute [INACH], has revealed that the proposal was presented before the 12th consultative meeting of the member countries of the Antarctic Treaty, which was held from 7 to 18 October in Brussels.

Romero Julio on that occasion explained the Chilean stand opposing the proposal to declare the frozen continent a common patrimony of humanity.

One of the subjects discussed during the above-mentioned meeting referred to "the impact of man on the Antarctic environment." The INACH director stated that Chile had raised a matter related to the juxtaposition of bases in certain areas in the Antarctic Continent, especially on King George Island, "which has a negative impact on the environment, raises logistical difficulties, and impoverishes scientific activities because practically the same research work is being conducted in a limited area to the detriment of other areas which are not being investigated."

Concerning the reactions of the delegates attending the Brussels meeting, Romero Julio stated that "the Chilean proposal was found to be reasonable."

It has been mentioned that interest in setting up bases in Antarctica derives from the existence of a landing strip in the "Teniente Rodolfo Marsh" base on King George Island, a base that was built by the Chilean Air Force. This base allows logistical support and travel any time of the year. The strip is 1,305 meters long and 50 meters wide.

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CSO: 3348/167

CHILE

LEFTIST FRONT SPLITS IN UNIVERSITY ELECTION

PY120151 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1742 GMT 11 Nov 85

[Text] Santiago, 11 Nov (EFE)--The Chilean Communist Party [PCCH] will support the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and orthodox Socialist groups will join the extreme left in the upcoming elections at the Santiago de Chile University [USACH].

The information was furnished by opposition political sources, thus confirming the split in the USACH elections of the Popular Democratic Movement, MDP.

The MDP, which has been traditionally homogeneous, has split for the election of university leaders, because only the Communists have accepted the PDC proposal to form a united opposition list.

The PDC demanded for itself three of the six positions in the USACH Student Federation. The demand was accepted by the Communists, but rejected by the orthodox Socialists, and by the Miguel Enriquez Rebel Movement [Movimiento Rebelde Miguel Enriquez].

Explaining the split in the Marxist Left, PCCH leader Patricio Hales said that desired agreements are not always obtained, especially in places where students have been submitted to the horror of brutal repression.

The USACH's elections will be held on 20-21 November.

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CSO: 3348/167

CHILE

ZAIRIAN ENVOY ON COPPER PRODUCTION

PY112129 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Nov 85

[Report from La Moneda Palace by (Persio Alven)]

[Excerpts] Zairian Ambassador to Chile Murairi Mitima Kaneno said this morning that it is necessary for the member countries of the Intergovernmental Council of Copper Exporting Countries [CIPEC] to act in mutual solidarity. The ambassador also said that it would be best for the main copper producing countries to diversify their production and to seek new markets, other than the traditional ones.

The concurrent Zairian ambassador to Chile came to the La Moneda Palace, where he was received by President Augusto Pinochet, to whom he said goodbye, since he will soon leave his diplomatic post.

When telling newsmen about the main points of his country's international position, particularly in the economic area, he recalled that last year, when there was danger that one of the large consumers of copper would reduce its purchases, Zaire had backed the joint stand of the main copper producers.

Regarding the possibility of increasing trade, the Zairian ambassador to Chile said that a system to reduce freight charges is being studied, by sending Chilean products through Argentine ports.

In conclusion, he said that the cultural links between Chile and Zaire are now adequate.

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CSO: 3348/167

CHILE

BRIEFS

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, RADICAL UNION JOIN--The Executive Board of the Social Democrats and the Board of Directors of the Radical Union (UR) agreed recently to merge for the purpose of facing Chile's current political situation with unity. This was announced in a note sent to the Social Democrats that was signed by UR Vice-President Bernardo Echeverria and UR Secretary General Leopoldo Brull. The note says: "Aware of the historic responsibility that the Chilean Radical movement has undertaken, and concerned about the serious political problems the country currently faces and the urgent need to reorganize related political and ideological groups, the undersigned leaders of the Radical Union, for the purpose of advancing toward that goal, hereby agree to merge the Radical Union and the Social Democratic movement of Chile as soon as possible in order to bring about a peaceful and orderly transition to full democracy in as short a period as possible. With this goal in mind, we are aware that the minimal differences that divide us must be overcome, and that we must unite in a positive and constructive action to promote social peace and national unity for the sake of the country's progress." According to information gathered by LA TERCERA, today the two political groups' committees are scheduled to meet to lay the groundwork for the merger. The Social Democratic Committee will be made up of Vice-Presidents Arturo Venegas and Rafael Senoret, Mario Sharpe, and Guillermo Grusmayer. The UR will be represented by National President Neri Valenzuela, Vice-President Bernardo Echeverria, National Women's President Ema Suarez, and Raul Rojas Valencia, chairman of the Professional and Technical Department. In addition, next 16 October the UR will hold a National Consultation to ratify the merger. [Text] [Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 10 Oct 85 p 12] 8926

INJURIES, ARRESTS AT PROTEST--Approximately 50 injuries and more than 200 arrests are the initial toll of the popular protest against the Chilean military regime which reaches its second day today. Stores began to close early on Tuesday and the paralysis, not only of business, but also of public transportation, was total later in the day. As has been the case for a long time in this kind of protest, the wounded, victims of the heavy repression, are mostly youths, two of whom are in critical condition. The main object of this national protest is to demand the release of six labor and community leaders who have been in a Santiago jail for the past 42 days. A major blackout that affected Santiago and other cities in central Chile occurred on Tuesday night, the result of the destruction of an electrical transmission tower. [Text] [Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Nov 85 PA]

LISTENER CALLS FOR OVERTHROW--And now friends we send greetings to the listener from the Come group who has sent us a cassette with valuable information for which we of course thank him, and we hope that he continues to keep in touch with us. This is his voice with a brief call for unity. [Begin recording] We cannot allow ourselves the luxury of losing one more Chilean. We must not allow our women to be humiliated. We must not allow our children to be subjected to fear. We must not permit one more murder. It is the time for unity. We must unite in our efforts against the tyranny and oppression, against crime, misery, and terror. We must overthrow the dictatorship, but we must overthrow it now. [end recording] [From the "Mailbag" feature] [Text] [Moscow Radio Magallanes in Spanish to Chile 0200 GMT 9 Nov 85 PY]

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CSO: 3348/167

COLOMBIA

PRC PREMIER COMMENTS AT BOGOTA NEWS CONFERENCE

PA052241 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 31 Oct 85 p 16-e

[Article by F. Alfredo Krichilski]

[Text] Zhao Ziyang, premier of the Chinese State Council, stated that the foreign debt problem has stopped being merely an economic issue and has become an important international political problem.

He said this during a news conference held in the Emerald Room of Bogota's Tequendama Hotel at the end of his 3-day official visit to Colombia, during which he signed important bilateral cooperation agreements and established the bases for eventual agreements on coffee, banana, and lumber trade.

He expressed the hope that more leaders of creditor countries will act with insight to resolve this problem, because if they fail to do so "the debt will have unpredictable consequences."

Meanwhile, he asserted that the PRC rejects the practice of forcing countries to pay their foreign debts at the cost of slowing down the rate of development of Third World countries to the detriment of their peoples' standards of living.

He said that this will only lead to economic recession in the developing countries without hurting the industrialized nations. "I have discussed this with political leaders of many developed countries on numerous occasions," he said.

Asked his government's opinion on the Colombian peace process, Zhao Ziyang stated that that is a domestic matter that the Colombian Government must resolve.

However, he remarked having noticed the great efforts the Betancur administration has undertaken in that direction with positive results, adding that this pleased him a great deal.

He explained that he preferred not to expand on the topic of peace in Colombia, especially in the context of a news conference.

He warned that the USSR and U.S. disarmament proposals are very different and hoped the two nations will be able to make progress. However, he said the world should be prepared to witness a marathon arms race for a long time to come.

The Chinese premier left for Brazil at noon yesterday. There he will hold important talks on coffee trade proposals and take part in other events to strengthen relations between those two countries.

The Chinese leader said his country supports the Cartagena Agreement. He said that the principles agreed upon during the three meetings there were points of agreement applicable not only to Latin America, but also to the world debt problem.

Zhao Ziyang said his government has no ties with the Colombian People's Liberation Army or any other Latin American rebel movement. He said his government had no say in the trends such groups choose to follow, although it is aware of them. All Maoist trends oppose the Colombian Government.

He said that Mao's ideas will continue to guide the Chinese Communist Party, while acknowledging that his thinking has its merits and pitfalls.

He said that China permeates socialism, Marxism, Leninism, democratic people's dictatorships, and the leadership of the people's Communist Party. "This," Zhao said, "means that Maoist thought prevails. That is why Lenin said no one was infallible."

He said that the policies Mao adopted near the end of his life were incorrect and maladjusted to the country's situation and that that is why some things have changed.

Zhao Ziyang will go from Brazil to Argentina and Venezuela, where he will meet with those countries' leaders.

The premier said that the agreements signed by the PRC and Colombia will be very productive and will broaden bilateral relations, so beneficial to countries so distant from one another, between which understanding has been difficult, though their common concerns and points of agreement are greater each day.

He said that the two countries have gone through similar times of oppression and been victims of the same outdated economic practices and that they can come together to establish a new and fair financial order, because the two possess products that can be exchanged.

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CSO: 3348/166

COLOMBIA

PUBLIC WORKS ENGINEERS SEEK ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENTS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Oct 85 p 8-A

[Text] Cali, 5 October--The Colombian Association of Construction Engineers (ACIC) has requested of the government adjustments in the Monetary Board's measures to prevent the bankruptcy of the firms engaged in public works construction. Among those measures, it proposed a 2-year freeze on state spending.

In this connection, the head of ACIC, Hernan Cadavid Tamayo, told EL TIEMPO that, as a conclusion emanating from the 15th Congress on Public Works Engineering, which deliberated here for 4 days, the following proposals would be sent to President Belisario Betancur and to the next head of state:

1. Doubling of the investment in communications routes. This will help, albeit partially, to offset the enormous deficit represented by the reduction in the projected sum of 270 billion to 120 billion during the period 1983-86.
2. Freezing of the state's operating expenses for 2 years. This is practicable, based on the announcements that the government itself has been making.
3. Undertaking of major agricultural and tourist projects. As we noted previously, these activities will bring us foreign exchange, employment and use of the idle capacity in construction engineering.
5. Private ownership of railroads and ports. This involves none other than saving these two essential enterprises required for the existence of our import and export trade, in other words, for the very life of our country as a civilized nation, from total collapse.
5. Establishment of a labor reform, implementing the initiatives that I have cited, so as to achieve a reduction in unemployment to half of the present rate, during the next 2 years.
6. Forbidding all public entities to award contracts to foreign companies. When, under special circumstances, foreign participation is required, it must be procured through subcontracts in which the subcontractor is the foreign firm.

Private Ownership of the Railroads

Calí, 4 October--The construction engineers told the government that the time has come to seriously study private ownership of the services rendered by the National Railroads and the Ports of Colombia enterprise, since they are of the opinion that both entities "are threatened with death" as a result of their high bureaucratic and administrative costs.

The petition was formulated, on behalf of the professionals in the sector, by the head of the Colombian Association of Construction Engineers, Hernan Cadavid Tamayo, who emphasized that, as the National Railroads and Ports of Colombia [Colpuertos] are operating at present, "the country, the users and the citizens have no full guarantees of a recovery that would enable them to suitably meet the requirements of the nation's freight transportation."

Cadavid Tamayo remarked: "It is easy to imagine the effects of a flawed administrative system in enterprises which, even though they have public service purposes, have to operate within the commercial orbit, as the railroads and ports enterprises do."

The general manager, Miguel Antonio Vargas Mayorga, explained to EL TIEMPO that National Railroads has at least 8,000 retirees and 9,000 workers. They arrive bent on improving their services, despite the great financial difficulties and, recently, the enterprise has had to put up with a temporary stoppage in some of its operations in Cundinamarca, El Corzo and Buenaventura, in view of the protest from about 500 workers raised because they had not been paid the last 2 weeks' wages.

'Recovery Is Not Enough'

Cadavid Tamayo commented: "The recovery of Colpuertos has actually been obvious, but if one considers the fact that there are no reserve funds to pay the retirement pensions contracted with its nearly 9,000 retirees, equivalent to about 51 billion pesos, within a few years all the money taken in by the enterprise from its operations will have to be allocated exclusively for the payment of pensions, and there will not even be any wages for the workers."

2909

CSO: 3348/60

COLOMBIA

PLAN TO PROMOTE EXPORTS IN GRAPHIC ARTS SECTOR PROPOSED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Sep 85 pp 1-B, 2-B

[Text] PROEXPO [Export Promotion Fund] is backing an important and ambitious program to place the graphic arts sector and publishing industry in the vanguard of Colombia's minor exports within a period of 5 years.

Some of its fundamental objectives are to increase joint exports by publishers and printers, and to encourage participation in specialized competitions in order to reach out to new and larger publishing markets.

For example, it has been calculated that at present the minimum export goal for publishing products is \$36.7 million, and the maximum is \$38.3. Through this program, in 1990 these goals will be a minimum of \$72.1 million, and a maximum of \$103.1 million.

There are also plans to put an end to one of the obstacles blocking the development of this sector: the high cost and shortage of its basic raw material, paper. This problem should begin to be resolved after 1 more year, when Colombia's new paper mill begins production.

In addition, there are plans to reorient our products away from our traditional markets toward other, more solid markets, but without neglecting the traditional markets. Now, 64 percent of our publishing products exported go to South America and 7 percent to Central America; this situation is of concern from the viewpoint of commercial stability, as the economic conditions in those countries could place the Colombian publishing industry in serious difficulties at any given moment.

In the short term, there are plans to level out or balance participation in those markets. At present the Andean Group countries absorb 56 percent of Colombia's exports; for the mid-term, this goal should be set at 25 percent; for Central America, now 7 percent, 5 percent; for North America, from its current level of 19 percent up to 30 percent; and for Europe, up from 8 percent to 20 percent.

Joint Exports

At present, the majority of these exports to the Andean Pact countries are handled through the joint system. This means that costs are shared by the publisher and the printer.

For example, the printer can get development resources to meet his production costs (paper, payroll costs, film, etc.) at development rates, which are 22 percent, and not bank rates, which are over 40 percent. The same is true for the publisher, who can also apply for development resources to meet his production costs (authors' royalties, storage charges, etc.).

In this way both parties are responsible only for their share of the loan and not for its entirety, which is more advantageous and offers them greater security. Information on this program is being disseminated to both printers and publishers, so that both of them will become familiar with its workings and its comparative advantages.

International Events

PROEXPO feels that limitations on the exportable supply may be partly offset by promoting the attendance of Colombian publishers at international events such as the European book fair and similar events in Latin America. In other words, they want both printers and publishers to make themselves known in the world.

The publishers can select topics, purchase titles, and negotiate authors' royalties. PROEXPO is emphasizing the importance and advisability of having Colombia take part by sending trade missions to book fairs held in Bologna, Frankfurt, and Liber (Spain), even though each of these events has very different characteristics.

In Latin America, where there is no tradition of holding such events, contacts should be made with publishing foundations, and particularly with government agencies in order to promote educational programs. If such opportunities are not grasped, markets like the Andean Pact countries, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Peru could be lost to competitors such as Mexico, Argentina, and Spain.

Nonetheless, if this program is to become a true working reality, we will first have to overcome a number of problems and obstacles. Let's look at some of them.

Lack of Raw Materials

According to PROEXPO, Colombia's domestic supply of paper for printing and writing, which barely covers 85 percent of the apparent consumption, can not meet all of the domestic demand for such grades of paper. For this reason,

paper has to be imported, It is expected that this problem will be solved when the new paper mill opens.

In addition, the high cost of paper also has an impact on this sector's development. Paper used for books printed in Bogota costs \$769.23 per ton, while the Argentine, Brazilian, and Mexican publishers buy it for a price ranging between \$460 and \$550 per ton.

Moreover, there is no credit to provide working capital for publishers in Colombia. Some use bank financing, where the real interest rate oscillates between 46 and 53 percent. In any event, it is expected that next year the CERT [expansion unknown] will be held at 20 percent for books and 15 percent for magazines; if not, Colombian books would lose their competitive position in the international market.

Policy Discrepancies

Protected by laws on worldwide free circulation, publishing products enter Colombia exempt from tariffs as they are cultural goods and not industrial products. This creates a disincentive for domestic production. The government requires that those who import raw materials for the production of books pay customs duties, despite the value added in the printing and publishing process.

Nonetheless, this situation does not occur in the export sector, which operates according to the Vallejo Plan,

Limited Exportable Supply

According to PROEXPO, the lack of Colombian authors, the raw material essential for the development of the publishing sector, is evident. This forces Colombian publishers to travel to specialized international events, in order to make up for the lack of Colombian production.

For example, while in 1982 Argentina published about 5,000 titles, the Federal Republic of Germany 49,000, Brazil 14,000, and Spain 29,000, Colombia published only 4,500 titles.

But we have to remember that this marked dependence on imports is caused by our absolute need for technical and scientific publications, which are produced on a minimal scale in Spanish speaking America.

Even though there are all sorts of other problems, the graphic arts sector and publishing industry foresee better prospects for the future. PROEXPO indicates that the stimulus of publishing exports has led foreign publishers with offices in Colombia to study the possibility of publishing here part of the publications that are now imported. This initiative has met with a good reception, and appropriate contacts are already being made.

In addition, the fact that a new paper mill which will manufacture printing and writing papers is opening in Colombia will help to foster a climate of confidence and tranquility in this sector, for with a normal supply of raw materials guaranteed, printing contracts can be signed.

7679

CSO: 3348/130

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

GALAN SUPPORTS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT--Cartagena, 28 September--The New Liberalism candidate for the presidency of the republic, Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento, in an address at the Fourth National Ecological Congress, which concludes this morning in this capital, expressed approval for the execution of the Urra I hydroelectric project. The political leader also cited the need for revising the partnership contracts so that they may really establish regulations for the preservation of our natural resources, in connection with the coal and oil operations being carried out in the country. He said that the ecology represents the rights of the future generations who, unlike or ancestors and present-day citizens, have not had a say in the decisions that have been made on planning and development. Therefore, the ecology represents, primarily, the right of the planet's future inhabitants to find a pleasant location in which to live. [Excerpt] [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 29 Sep 85 p 12-A] 2909

MINING INDUSTRY IMPORTS EXPEDITED--The government has adopted measures to expedite imports of essential goods for the coal and oil industries, specifically, for the El Cerrejon-Norte project in La Guajira, and the Cano Limon project in Arauca. In this connection, INCOMEX [Colombian Foreign Trade Institute] issued Resolution 035, which authorized the importing of products included in 1,072 tariff positions, through the semi-annual permit system. At least 550 of the latter relate to the coal industry, and the rest to the oil sector. The director of INCOMEX, Nohora Rey, said that, with this measure the normal progress of the aforementioned project would be ensured. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 Oct 85 p 7-B] 2909

CSO: 3348/60

27 November 1985

CUBA

DESCRIPTION OF 'SECRET' AFRICAN CULT PRACTICED IN MATANZAS, HAVANA

Havana CUBA INTERNACIONAL in Spanish Aug 85 pp 58-61

[Article by Jesus Abascal Lopez: "Religion: The Secret Society 'Abakua'"]

[Text] Standing alongside the group of ibonos (musicians) rhythmically sounding out the ritual drumbeat in the courtyard of an old Abakua church located in the historic Matanzas district of Simpson -- home of the famous danzon -- we passed around a gourd and drank great mouthfuls of mimba (cane brandy) as the afternoon sun set on a shining spring Saturday. I was not the only makri (White) at the initiation plante (ceremony); there were others. Some had been invited, while others were nanigos (members of the sect). The photographer and I were called yenica (friend), probably a cordial deference because practically no Cubans have ever had the opportunity to attend such a celebration, at which three new indisimes (initiates) would be confirmed as obonekues (brothers in religion) of the secret society Abakua.

The ceremony actually takes place at two different sites: the isaroko, which is public and which consists of the procession with the plazas (officiating officers), the indisimes and the ekobios (members of the society); and the mysterious famba (secret room), where the confirmation of the candidates takes place. Present at the latter is the iriongo (top secret hidden place), where the lyamba (Abakua dignitary) "feeds" and beats on the ekwe, the most important drum of the ritual, the one that transmits the voice, the secret of the sacred Tanze fish, the solar nucleus of the mythology of the nanigos which has its origins in the Calabar region of Nigeria.

At the isaroko, one dances, drinks and eats abundantly, while the neophytes in the famba remain kneeling, without shirts or shoes, where they they will be "marked" with the magical virtues of the ngomo (yellow plaster) and where they will receive their attributes and the ashes from the incense, after being "baptized" with Abasi umon (holy water). There, the indisime will drink the mokuba (liquor for the oath), which makes him an Abakua, and eat the iriampo (holy supper), while the iremes (supernatural representations) dance and gesticulate to ward off the unknown spirits surrounding the famba, trying to interfere in the age-old ceremony.

At the risk of overwhelming the reader with this rich vocabulary of the nanigo and of intriguing him with a few elements relating to this extremely complex and intricate world of the Abakua society, we prefer first to speak about the

enigmatic and private atmosphere of these rites -- of whose manifestations we were recently privileged witnesses -- before giving general information about the cult, whose followers in Cuba do not exceed the figure of 3,000 active members, and other very special information about the characteristics of the sect in the city of Matanzas specifically.

What Is Abakua?

In his well-documented essay "The Nanigos" (Casa de las Americas prize, 1982), Enrique Sosa provides a summary of the controversial religious group, which we are reprinting:

"Abakua, an exclusive secret society for men, self-financed by means of dues and collections among its members, with a complex hierarchical organization of officials (plazas) and assistants, the presence of otherworldly beings, an obscure ritual whose secret -- jealously guarded -- is materialized in a drum called the 'ekwe,' with ceremonies of initiation, renewal, purification and death, temporal and eternal benefits, internal laws and punishments of compulsory acceptance and execution, an esoteric secret language and another graphic language of signatures, seals and holy tracings, has to date constituted an unparalleled cultural phenomenon in Cuba and America, one of great importance for an understanding of our tradition, our cultural institutions and our folklore. From it come phonemes, inflections of the language and syntactical forms of customary use, as well as psychosocial traits that served in the past to describe the nanigos as petulant bullies, natural trouble-makers inclined to crime even for inborn Lombrosian causes (...). Since the latter half of the 19th century and even well into the 20th, the nanigos were accused of being criminals -- which in some cases was true -- and witches. They were feared, vituperated and wrapped in a sensationalist atmosphere that thrived on fear, a product of ignorance with respect to the nature of their beliefs and rites, as well as class, alarmist, opportunistic and shamelessly false, antiscientific interests."

It would appear that the first Abakua secret society founded in Cuba, made up of a group of Carabali Blacks of the Appapa branch, dates from 1836 and was set up in the overseas town of Regla on the eastern edge of Havana Bay. This first grouping or power (also called a nation, land, set or party) was called Efik Buton and its members were free Blacks and slaves of that area and the capital district of Belen. In principle, the association was clandestine in nature. The colonial authorities persecuted the different sets, which had actually organized as mutual protection and aid societies. This labor-type cohesion, as a mechanism of defense and subsistence in the face of the economic and class pressures of the regime in power, helped maintain -- as it did in the native country; in the Nigerian region -- communal order and preserve traditional beliefs. In a recently published work, "El Canto y el Tiempo" [Song and Time], musicologist Argeliers Leon states: "The brotherhoods of the Abakua started from the preservation of a complicated ritual that repeated the legendary history of their emergence in Africa, which gave them unity and a basis of commitment of members to the group. This same history created the hierarchical structure of each brotherhood and provided a basis for a code of conduct for members, a code that went beyond the internal activities

and imposed specific forms of social conduct." Gradually, the powers gained remarkable strength in certain proletarian circles: the docks, supply markets, tobacco and shoe factories, the slaughterhouses, and so on, and a certain prestige was gained for the ekobios, both in the district where the nanigos resided and in their respective working centers.

Being Abakua implied being a man to respect because the nanigos definitely pay special homage to manliness, interpreted by a macho attitude with great emphasis on gestures, vocabulary and attitudes, which are representative in the highest degree of masculinity and sometimes temerity. This is why women can naturally not belong to such secret societies. Most of these underground religious groups ended up being concentrated in two of the largest maritime urban centers in the country: Havana (including, in addition to the port zone, the districts of Marianao, Regla and Guanabacoa) and Matanzas (its port and that of Cardenas).

"The nanigos are the Masons of Africa and we Cubans are their descendants," said one informer from the Abakua sect many years ago. And there actually is an undeniable relationship between Masonry and the practices of this secret society. However, for years in the Penal Code, the practice of naniguismo was condemned, not because of the exaggerated machismo of its followers, but rather, because of certain manifestations of violence, arrogant exhibitionism, intolerance, the inclination to take justice into their own hands and other aggravating circumstances of which the ekobios were accused.

As the 20th century moved along, many nanigos occupied posts as trade union leaders on the different piers (of Havana and Matanzas). However, researcher Jesus Guanche says, "the labor movement became stronger and stronger and what came about was an assimilation of the Abakuas by the union (maritime)."

With the victory of the revolution, the members of the Abakua societies preserved their beliefs and ritual practices, but they were in turn immersed in the process of general change that involved all of Cuban society.

In a friendly talk with Rafael Torriente Menendez, we received first-hand information on the organization, which is based at the Uriabon Efi church, the oldest Abakua group in the area (founded in 1862):

"Our religion operates without any interference from the government. We have had no problems here in Matanzas," says this veteran nanigo of 73 years and worker in a shoe factory. "Every set maintains the best and friendliest relations with government representatives. It is good that this policy of ours should be known, that people know that in our society, one has to be a good father, a good son, a good husband, that we do not accept people with any criminal background. The Abakua groups are made up of honest, true workers who accept our religious principles and our code. And since we are enamored of progress and since our religion is not at odds with the changes that have occurred in Cuban society, the nanigos of Matanzas also do volunteer work when there are mobilizations throughout the country. We have ekobios," Torriente adds, "who are members of the Territorial Troop Militias and others who were

soldiers at the Bay of Pigs and Escambray. Others are internationalists, as civilian assistants or soldiers. We are a progressive society of a fraternal, religious nature. In a community such as ours, Cuba, power is in the hands of the workers and we nanigos, as workers, feel that we are part of that power. That is how we interpret our freedom of religion, freedom of assembly, freedom of beliefs."

Actually, behind the mythological nature of this unique religion (which next year will celebrate its 150th anniversary) is a rich source for the study of the history of Cuba and the development of national culture. Many individuals, for specific economic, family, fraternal or personal reasons, have decided to join the century-old secret society. The sustained development of the Cuban revolution, with its radical changes in the economic, political and social structure, the elimination of racial discrimination -- although Whites can also be nanigos, one must note -- the eradication of unemployment, the socialization of medicine, the establishment of free education and a policy of consistent and fair social welfare and assistance will in time help ensure that such fraternal groupings, with animistic beliefs and syncretic practices, will reduce even further the number of their followers.

Whatever the case, every man is a world in himself, and as an old Efik proverb would remind us: "Only the sea knows the bottom of the boat...." The revolution's policy on these syncretic cults -- whose composition includes African and Catholic practices combined -- is the prevention of antisocial activities and forms of conduct that might be harmful to the health and integrity of the citizens or contrary to the public interest. As for the rest, "the folkloric cultural values contributed by the ethnic groups represented in such circles must be assimilated and purged of mystical elements so that the utilization of their essence will not serve to maintain customs and opinions removed from scientific truth." This is the position of the First Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba on the policy to be followed on religion, the Church and believers.

The Abakua secret society; which has had undeniable influence on literature, the dance, musical instruments, song, the plastic arts, theater and popular speech, will continue for a long time to come to contribute the richness of its myths and complicated rituals to our traditional forms of expression and communication.

For the reader, this extremely quick leap from the famba to the ecueriye (writing pen) may be as suggestive as the graphic material accompanying this modest article. We hope it will prove as interesting for him as it was for us, who enjoyed the actual experience.

11,464
CSO: 3248/11

CUBA

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CHINA NOTED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 28 Sep 85 p 7

[Article by Arnaldo Musa]

[Text] When Cuba announced its decision to sever ties with the puppet regime of Chiang Kai Shek and establish diplomatic relations with the legitimate government of the Chinese people, it reaffirmed that it was a free country in America that could determine its own national and international policy by democratic and sovereign means, with the people, free of the dictates of any foreign power.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the People's Republic of China took place 25 years ago today, on 28 September 1960. On 2 September, in a ceremony in the Plaza de la Revolucion, in the presence of 1 million Cubans, the First Declaration of Havana was approved. This document expressed Cuba's willingness to form a bond between the two countries, and stated that relations with the regime maintained on Formosa (Taiwan) by the ships of the Yankee 7th Fleet were therefore terminated.

At that time, in what was later called the First Declaration of Havana, Cuba's policy of friendship with all socialist countries was confirmed. The isolation of the People's Republic of China by the United States Government and the hostile attitudes encouraged by the latter, the document noted, were the result of the war-mongering, aggressive stance taken by Washington. The declaration also stated that these actions jeopardized the peace and security of the hemisphere and the world.

On that occasion, Fidel stated in a message to then Prime Minister Chou En Lai that "we feel bound together by our common aspirations in the struggle against imperialism, which has kept our peoples in poverty and backwardness."

Weeks later, the Chinese expressed their support for the Declaration of Havana, and their admiration "for the decisive and courageous measure adopted by the Republic of Cuba to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China."

For more than a decade, Cuba was also a strong advocate of the membership of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and other international

organizations so that that country could be represented there in accordance with its legitimate right.

Twenty-five years after the formation of our diplomatic bond, Cuba and China continue to develop their economic and commercial relations on mutually beneficial grounds. At this time, progress is being made in cooperation in a variety of fields, including public health, sports and education.

In the name of peace and friendship among nations, in consideration of both countries' interests, and in keeping with our policy of principles, bilateral relations and friendship are now developing gradually between Cuba and China.

8926

CSO: 3248/51

CUBA

REPORT ON EASTERN ARMY PARTY CONFERENCE

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 26 Sep 85 pp 8-10

[Article by Cesar Gomez Chacon]

[Text] "Life shows us all too eloquently that men who are able to grow in the face of objective difficulties can resolve great problems," stated Col Gustavo Milian Rivero, chief of the Central Political Office of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR). He made these remarks at the concluding ceremonies of the 8th Eastern Army Party Conference.

The event was attended by Miguel Cano Blanco, alternate member of the Politburo and first secretary of the Party in the province of Holguin; Maj Gen Ramon Espinosa Martin, a member of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) Central Committee and chief of the Eastern Army; and other party leaders and high-ranking military officers. It was characterized by a combative attitude and a highly critical spirit among the delegates.

Many significant activities were carried out by the units from the country's easternmost provinces in preparation for this 8th Conference, with achievements in combat readiness and organization, political-ideological work, attention to technique, strengthening the regulations, enhancing epidemiological and sanitation conditions, and improving military personnel's living and working conditions.

This was stated in the central report, which was debated extensively and approved by the delegates. The report describes the principal activities carried out by the Party's organizations and the Eastern Army's political agencies. It also contains a critical assessment of the work done by these groups during the last 2 years.

During the discussion of the report, the sense of responsibility and the objectivity and optimism that characterize our Communists were in evidence. Thus, not only were the difficulties encountered during the period presented and analyzed, but the objectives that will guide the work of the next stage to overcome these problems were outlined and approved.

Among the points most widely discussed in the central report was the role of the chiefs, general staffs, political workers and party organizations in

ensuring the quality of the instruction process. It was determined, in this connection, that each of these elements should pay greater attention to marksmanship training and tactics, considering the effect these factors have on improving combat readiness.

In this regard, the importance of party influence on instruction was stressed. Our soldiers must not only know how to shoot straight, but they must also understand clearly at whom they are shooting and why.

The eastern delegates paid particular attention to refining the educational process, enhancing the core of study materials, the utilization of individual study time, and the improvement of the pedagogical mastery and creative spirit of the instructors at the Military Instruction Centers that belong to this Army. Along these lines, it was emphasized that curricula must be adapted to the most recent concepts of the War of All the People.

Similarly, the vanguard role of party members in Socialist Emulation was the subject of an extensive analysis. The primary reason for this role is that party members must assume emulative commitments that do not fall short of their real potential. It is up to the organization to help Communists fulfill their duties, spread the benefit of the best experiences, and make individual and collective examples known to all.

A very emotional moment occurred after the delegate of a large unit reaffirmed its commitment to the FAR minister to work hard to achieve the glorious name of Maj Gen Ignacio Agramonte. Then came Miguel Cano Blanco's speech, in which he urged the other similar units in the Eastern Army to strive equally hard to be honored with the names of other "Mambi" [Cuban patriot] heroes. The Party and the entire nation will back them in this endeavor, he pledged.

This proposal was approved with a hearty applause, and with speeches by the representatives of the other large units of the Army. They expressed their determination to achieve this important objective.

The delegates to the assembly also came out in favor of strengthening their efforts with technique and weapons, urging that more attention be given to the use of weapons and the reduction of irregular occurrences.

They also discussed, as a point in the central report, the utilization of the time devoted to mass agitation. They noted that there is not always enough time for this, and they urged that the quality of content be improved.

Strict compliance with regulations was another issue discussed by the military Communists of the eastern region. In this regard, they emphasized how important it is for the political agencies, party organizations and all Communists (chiefs or not) to be more demanding in their strict enforcement of all orders and provisions contained in the documents that govern the FAR. They also called for refinements in preventive measures, and improved educational work.

Another aspect that was studied during the 8th Eastern Army Party Conference was the need to increase the effectiveness of savings plans. For this

purpose, it was noted that priority should be given to efficiency in combat and political training through the rational use of resources.

Another key moment was the delegates' passage of a Special Resolution supporting the struggle of the peoples of our America not to pay the foreign debt and to bring about the New International Economic Order. The resolution also condemned the imperialists' policy in the different parts of the world, and reaffirmed our soldiers' willingness to go to any part of the globe to carry out an internationalist mission, no matter how long it takes.

Omar Iser Mojena, a member of the PCC Central Committee and vice-chairman of the National Control and Review Committee, also spoke at the event. He congratulated the Communists of the Eastern Army for "this combative conference," and conveyed greetings from Comrade Jorge Risquet.

The report issued by the Adjunct Party Committee Attached to the Political Section of the Eastern Command was also debated and unanimously approved. New members were elected to that party agency for the next term, as were the 15 delegates who will represent the Army in the 3rd PCC Congress.

During the closing ceremonies, Col Milian Rivero mentioned the Party's ideological endeavors, stating that specific, day-to-day problems should be given top priority. He spoke of the need to improve working methods at all levels, for which purpose each chief and leader should develop his own ideas and encourage initiative and creativity in military work.

He stressed the importance of working with young officers, and the role that eminently practical instruction plays. He also pointed out that one of the Party's principal tasks in the FAR is the constant evaluation of members' activity and their influence on other members of the Armed Forces.

He congratulated those who had been elected to the Adjunct Committee and to serve as delegates to the 3rd Party Congress, and expressed his conviction that the FAR will continue to be a genuine school of ideological formation.

EASTERN ARMY DELEGATES TO 3RD CONGRESS

Maj Gens Abelardo Colome Ibarra, Raul Menendez Tomashevich and Ramon Espinosa Martin; Brig Gens Jose N. Causse Perez, Harold Ferrer Martinez, Nestor Lopez Cuba, Filiberto Olivera Moya, and Romarico Sotomayor Garcia; Cols Armando Martinez Alvarez, Dagoberto Delgado Morgado and Adalberto Segura Meneses; Lt Cols Bienvenido Diaz Quintana and Jose Duerto Gonzalez; Maj Isidoro F. Rodriguez Avelle; and Civilian Worker Feridia M. Pargas Torres.

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CUBA

DEMOBILIZED OFFICERS RECEIVE VARIOUS HONORS, AUTOMOBILES

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 26 Sep 85 p 55

[Article by Ruben Fonseca]

[Excerpts] Maj Gen Abelardo Colome Ibarra, an alternate member of the Party Politburo and first alternate minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR), presided over the ceremonies in which a group of officers who have finished their Active Military Service were promoted to the next rank.

In addition, during the same ceremonies first officers and subordinate officers were awarded the Ignacio Agramonte Medal in the first, second and third degrees, and were given diplomas crediting them with 15 years or more of service in the military.

Col Pascual Hernandez Matamoros, speaking on behalf of the demobilized officers, stated that wherever the Revolution sends them, they will continue to contribute to the prestige of the FAR by showing the proper attitude toward life, and will remain true to the political line set forth by our Party and the commander in chief.

In conclusion, he said that it was a great honor for them to have served proudly in the FAR, which they would join as many times as duty required. As National Hero Jose Marti wrote, "The more one has served, the more one is obliged to continue serving."

During the ceremonies, it was announced that the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed forces (MINFAR) had decided to reward several demobilized officers with automobiles and motorcycles.

After the officers received their promotions and medals, they were congratulated by a group of pioneers, who gave them flowers and kissed their cheeks in recognition of their efforts to contribute to the country's defense.

Maj Gen Joaquin Quinta Solas, who was in charge of the closing ceremony, described the service the demobilized officers had performed during their honorable Active Military Service.

He referred to the contribution the medal-winners had made to the training of officers, and other important military tasks. He went on to emphasize that among those present were proud veterans of the Rebel Army, the events of Playa Giron and the struggle against bandits, the internationalist missions, and other glorious events in the beautiful combative history of the Revolution and our people.

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CUBA

VERDE OLIVO DESCRIBES PREINDUCTION PROCESS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 26 Sep 85 pp 28-29

[Article by Marianela Samper]

[Text] Article 65 of the Constitution of the Republic of Cuba states that "the defense of the socialist fatherland is the greatest honor and supreme duty of every Cuban." For this reason, joining the General Military Service (SMG) upon reaching the age of 16 is a major event for a young man; it is the first step in his preparation for combatting the enemy.

During this very month of September, those who were born in 1969 are formally signing up at the recruitment offices in their local city halls. We wanted to find out how these offices work, so we went to one of them, located in the 10 October Municipality.

All the members of the Commission were gathered there. It is chaired by the chief of the Military Committee, and its members are the municipal representatives of the Party, the Union of Young Communists (UJC), the National Revolutionary Police (PNR), and the People's Government.

They are in charge of selecting future soldiers and placing them in units of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR).

Also present was a medical team made up of specialists in internal medicine, orthopedics and otorhinolaryngology, and a clinician and an ophthalmology technician. Together they assess the physical condition of the young man so that he can then join the SMG.

Organization of Registration

When the young men reach the Recruiting Office of the 10 October Military Committee, they present their appointment notice and enter the propaganda room to wait for their names to be called. In a short time, a considerable number of people have gathered in the area. They have been quite punctual, although they will have to improve this aspect of discipline even more. Many of them know each other from the neighborhood or school, and they gather to talk about different topics, including the reason they are here.

Afterwards, the political representatives of the municipality make their initial contact with the youths to explain to them how the registration is organized, what this new stage in their lives means, and the possibilities for development in the military. They also stress the need for the young men to remain in school until they are called up, because the Revolution needs skilled men both for the country's economy and to manage the modern technology and weaponry of our defense system.

After this talk, the youths begin to file through the Department of Document Formalization, where their draft cards, medical histories and preinduction certificates are typed up.

Then the medical examination begins with height and weight measurements. When that is done, the chief physician reviews the medical record and makes conclusions about the individual's physical aptitudes.

The last step in this assembly line is the official presentation of the preinduction certificate by a member of the Commission.

It should be noted that one of the duties of the comrades at the Recruiting Office is to follow up on the young men whose medical examinations have revealed some problem that requires treatment. The Commission immediately puts them in contact with a hospital complex to ensure that they receive the necessary treatment.

Youths' Conversation

Waiting to be called to have their induction formalized, Ariel Cura and Orlando Delgado talk excitedly. They have been friends ever since they were little, and they note that they may be able to stay together when they join the FAR.

Until that time comes, the two will continue their studies: Ariel at the Cepero Bonilla pre-university school in the 10 October Municipality, and Orlando at the Hermanos Gomez Technological Institute in the same place.

Judging by what I heard, they feel that signing up with the SMG not only fulfills a requirement set forth in our Constitution, but also gives them an opportunity to learn more about the Revolutionary Armed Forces, their patriotic traditions, and the possibility of preparing to defend the fatherland.

They go on to say in their conversation that the recently completed FAR film and TV series, "Something More to Dream About," brought them even closer to the world of military classrooms and ranges, while showing them the combat readiness and weapons technology of our artillery troops.

Parents Also Present

The presence of the parents was also noteworthy during the registration process. The fact that their children are about to leave the nest does not mean that they no longer care about the passages in their lives. And this is

of vital importance. Such is the case with Urda Carrasco, the mother of Eddy Cardenas.

At the Recruitment Office, she takes an interest in the details of the formalization and in what her son must do until he is called up by the FAR. Before this moment, she has talked with her son a great deal about the honor of serving in the military and about the education he will receive.

Now Eddy has left behind any doubts he may have had about his new life, and thinks about the attractions of military life that will make good use of his adventurous spirit and his bravery. He even thinks about taking up one of the areas of specialization that are available through the Society for Patriotic-Military Education (SEPMI), skindiving.

For the time being, the young man will continue studying mechanics at the Lazaro Pena School in the Municipality of Guanabacoa.

It became clear to us during our visit to the Recruitment Office of the 10 October Military Committee that our youths are happy and conscientious about signing up with the military, because they know full well what it means to fulfill this supreme duty.

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CUBA

DESCRIPTION OF MILITARY LIFE FOR YOUNG SOLDIERS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 26 Sep 85 pp 30-33

[Article by Marianela Samper]

[Text] On these pages we are going to get an encapsulated view of an important stage in the lives of young men—like you, for example—who are around 18 or 19 years old.

When you were just a little boy, you went to kindergarten. Most of the day, you were cared for by that unforgettable person you knew as "Ma'am." She taught you your first games, songs and stories, and then she showed you how to build blocks and to share with your little friends. Mama, Grandma and the rest of the family did the same during the remaining hours that you spent together.

A similar thing happened with your grade school teacher. Although you didn't realize it, the years went by, and your duties as a student increased. During those years your favorite toys had to wait until your spare time, until you put them away as mementos when your activities as a pioneer, your participation in the "school in the field" periods, and your sports activities took their place. You acquired new interests as your world became more complex.

Thus, you reached the age when your vitality, knowledge and participation allowed you to make your childhood dreams come true: playing dress-up as the manly patriotic hero, machete in hand, turned into wearing the olive green of the heroic Frank about whom you studied in Cuban history classes and whose bravery you admired so much. When you received your notice from the General Military Service (SMG), you joined the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR), and it was in those first few weeks that you began to mature into a man.

Soldier's School

The farewell from your Committee for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR) and the people in your home town is behind you, and now you live in a camp where you receive the knowledge that is indispensable in preparing you for military life.

In general, you become familiar with the laws, regulations and orders that govern our military, which is now yours too. You learn to fire infantry weapons, to throw grenades, to use protective chemicals. You receive instruction in tactics, engineering, explosive devices, topography and politics, in addition to physical training.

During this first stage, you get used to the voices of command; you learn to call things by their proper military names, to live in the rough, to reason and decide for yourself, to improve your discipline and courtesy, to share everything with everyone else.

At the end of this stage, you acquire the skills of a soldier; you begin to develop your character and to eliminate any childish traits that remained.

In short, you are ready to join the unit to which you are assigned, to become specialized and better defend the Revolution.

Visit to Camp

To prove to you that the written word is not meaningless, I will use as a point of reference a visit I made to one of the military camps of the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

The average age of the troops there is between 18 and 19, and most of the men have middle-level to middle-superior educations. The majority of them joined up straight from school; others had been in the labor market.

The field camp has dormitories, bathrooms, a sports area, and a club where local radio and television broadcasts are received and table games are available for soldiers with free time. These facilities are characterized by orderliness and cleanliness, because the soldiers themselves make sure they are well maintained.

The Material Study Base, in this case the instruction facilities, was constructed with the unit's own resources. The men built the rustic classrooms, the barbed-wire and mine fields, the small firing range, the obstacle course, the grenade-throwing areas and the anti-incendiary practice field, with their own hands.

Every day the new soldiers take classes, maintain the equipment and the perimeter where they camp, hold meetings to evaluate emulation among the platoons, and engage in sports. When they finish dinner, they have nearly 2 hours of free time before going to the dormitories. During the training, there will be days when they will implement, under battle conditions, all the knowledge they have acquired, participating in tactical exercises of several days' duration and combat marches.

You Talk to Them

I met Luis Alberto Fernandez, a soldier 18 year old, while he was participating in grenade-throwing exercises at the camp. This activity requires accuracy and distance.

In full uniform, with his battle gear and rifle on his shoulder, he repeated the training exercise several times. Sweat drenched his shirt and cap, but he was satisfied because in a short time he had mastered the skill well enough to hit the target.

Moments later, he told me that he began his military training at pre-university school in the 8 October Field of the Municipality of Cotorro. After completing the 12th grade he began to work as a mechanic and joined the Territorial Troops Militia (MTT), where he gained new knowledge. He pointed out, however, that at camp is where the soldier really learns.

Luis Alberto loves mechanics, and he is anxious to take up that trade. He told that to the deputy chief of the camp and the political chief, and they responded that he will have every opportunity to learn that skill in his final year in the SMG, and then major in engineering at the University. This is possible under Order 18 of the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (MINFAR), provided that his service record is satisfactory.

At the engineering field, a squadron was laying out an almost invisible wire. Soldier Marcos Ortiz, a friendly 18-year-old from Holguin, ran through the field and got caught in the fine strands of the obstacle course . . .

After his task was done, the smiling youth said that he has always enjoyed life in the FAR. "That is why some time ago I signed up at the Society for Patriotic-Military Education (SEPME) Club in my province. There I took special tactics classes and learned how to operate engineering machines." Marcos emphasized that during his SMG hitch he plans to progress further in that area of specialization.

Strategy: Think Young

Don't be surprised. The instruction and political orientation of these men is the responsibility of a group of young officers, recent graduates of the Cmdr Camilo Cienfuegos Artillery School and the Gen Antonio Maceo Weaponry School, the latter a recipient of the Order of Antonio Maceo Medal. They have also gained experience in direct contact with the troops under battle conditions.

Lt Eduardo Morales Lopetegui is one of the political chiefs. His main orientation is love of his work and, above all, being able to do his job under difficult conditions, which is where the most learning takes place. "The way to get the best results is to set a personal example," he said.

His strategy: /Think young and reach out to the new soldiers; learn about their aspirations and concerns, and become fully involved with them. Never forget that this work requires a constant effort to outdo yourself/ [passage enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface].

Now that you have had this conversation with me through this article, you will agree that the recruits I introduced you to are your own reflection. You are all boys in the new society; you have all had the same education and share the same potential, similar aspirations, and an ideology in common.

You can be like them when it comes time to receive comprehensive training in the SMG to defend what we have built.

CUBA

RULE CHANGES FOR AWARDING TRIPS, APPLIANCES TO SUGAR WORKERS

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 2, 3 Oct 85

[Article by Juan Varela Perez; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[2 Oct 85 p 5]

[Text] The proposals, suggestions and recommendations of sugar workers that have been gathered over the past few years are included in the series of modifications recently approved for the special sugar harvest emulation.

The new regulations that were released yesterday will implement these proposals, suggestions and recommendations during the next harvest. A grassroots information campaign will begin in November when workers go back to the fields.

Rene Penalver, second secretary of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions (CTC) and a member of the Central Committee, stated this Tuesday that "this should become a tool in the struggle for quality and efficiency, and it should bear fruit soon."

He stressed the important need for every man and woman in both agriculture and industry, as well as the Permanent Production Brigades and the shops, to learn the contents of the Regulations in detail. "We do not want," he said, "for this to become a bureaucratic effort; we hope that everyone will become aware of the new changes and modifications, and will understand their potential."

The first change (which we consider entirely fair) is that the monthly nationwide evaluations will no longer take place, since they contributed little or nothing. Penalver stated that in the future, only two evaluations will be made, at the end of February and at the end of the harvest. "The key," he emphasized, "is to strengthen emulation in the areas, brigades, shifts, and all the collectives, no matter how small, and to give them the support and inspiration they need."

According to the Regulations, the complexes will be divided into five categories depending on their potential milling standard. For this purpose, eight indices will be evaluated: potential milling capacity, absolute

recovery, sugar production, quality, "pol" cane, fuel consumption, harvest wastage, and extraneous matter.

The document states that as a result of problems in manual and mechanized cutting, in these Regulations harvest wastage, extraneous matter, and quality will serve as criteria for penalties, for study purposes.

To give an idea of these damages, in the past harvest some 20,000 arrobas of sugarcane was wasted for each caballeria in the mechanized harvest, and the mills received more than 400 million arrobas of extraneous matter.

In the future, the best brigades or shifts in the provinces will be rewarded for the maintenance of storage and cleaning centers, roads and facilities, locomotives, flatbed trucks, engineering facilities, industrial machine shops, electricity, and laboratories.

"There is where emulation must be strengthened and promoted, to bring it to its greatest potential," stated the second secretary of the CTC.

The "pol" or sugarcane factor, used to be measured according to plan fulfillment; from now on, it will be measured according to absolute results.

The subject of harvest wastage and extraneous matter is very interesting (and very controversial): Instead of disqualifying the complexes (recall the cases of Uruguay, Osvaldo Sanchez, Manuel Sanguily), the complexes will be penalized with five points for every point over the standard. And for every point below, they will get five additional points.

The most outstanding workers will be elected in each province for the following categories: weighing and milling, steam and electricity generation, crystallizing and centrifuging, and packing and handling. The declaration of the most outstanding agricultural machinery shops and automotive transport shops is another innovation.

Penalver noted that including all the members of the combine brigade or platoon (combers, mechanics, "novieros" and others) makes for more fairness.

There is still more to come. We will keep you posted.

[3 Oct 85 p 1]

[Text] Those who participate in the sugar harvest will be happy to learn about the changes that have just been made in the system for distributing goods and other benefits.

The Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions released a document that deals with the principal concerns that have been expressed in this sector in the past few years.

The majority interests of the masses are taken into consideration in all these modifications. Many times the production or service assemblies of the sugar

complexes have expressed disagreement with the method of awarding certain preferential goods. Such is the case with cars, to cite one example.

What will happen when the next harvest begins?

The reported indices and the worker's record for the last five harvests will be taken into account for the distribution of goods. The CTC and the Sugar Workers' Union, however, may study exceptional cases of workers who do not have that many years of service, but have earned merits to back up their application.

In industry, those who in the last five harvests (at least) have met or exceeded production or service standards and technical standards in their jobs, and have maintained proper labor discipline during that period, will be eligible.

The same period of time is required in cutting, gathering and loading by hand. Individually, the standards (plan wage-real wage) and the established attendance percentage will have to be met, and technical standards (quality) will have to be complied with strictly on the job.

In mechanized cutting, only million-arrobas brigades will be eligible for the goods, and within these brigades (naturally), preference will be given to operators who have attained or exceeded that number of arrobas.

The special items, 2,450 of them, will be distributed among operators who harvest 1 million or more arrobas, as long as they have at least an 80 percent attendance rate and have maintained an exemplary attitude toward their work and have been recognized as such by the collective for at least the past 5 harvests.

The remaining brigade members will be given the goods assigned to the brigade in accordance with the work they have done /and by majority agreement of the members./ This is one of the most significant changes in terms of quality and the results of the distribution process.

Until the last harvest, the system was different. Only one harvest was required to prove good work, and it was measured in terms of the percentage of plan fulfillment. Moreover, the opinion of the collective was not considered.

The extension of these benefits to the workers in machine shops, maintenance brigades, railroad crews and storage centers has been requested repeatedly.

The distribution plan makes it clear that those who meet the quotas may choose any item, /but they may only receive one./ The use of the application facilitates delivery of the goods in accordance with fulfillment of the wage standard recorded for the applicant.

Anyone who receives one of the additional articles may not apply for any of the items that have traditionally been distributed under the Million-Arrobas Movement.

In addition, 1,400 trips to socialist countries have been offered, with 50 percent compensation. A worker may choose one of these trips regardless of whether he has received another item in the past.

The most outstanding workers in the different areas of the sugar sector will be eligible for this benefit, depending on their labor and revolutionary merits.

Cars, motorcycles, air conditioning units and trips to socialist countries (with compensation) are in a special category.

The so-called traditional items (more than 52,000) include refrigerators, fans, and washing machines.

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GUYANA

EXILES SEEK COMMONWEALTH SANCTIONS AGAINST GOVERNMENT

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 21 Oct 85 p 6

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

A GUYANESE exile group Friday called on Commonwealth leaders meeting in Nassau to demand "comprehensive and mandatory sanctions" against Guyana otherwise the options for the South American nation's future will "reluctantly" be a violent revolution or extra-regional invasion.

The Guyana Liberal Democratic Party, based in Britain, Canada, United States and the Caribbean, and headed by Sherland R Chhangur, charged that Guyana is a "South Africa in reverse" and continues to afford a "corrupt minority black Marxist" regime absolute power in a "reign of terror."

Claiming to be a "Government in Exile" with strategic support bases in Guyana, the GLDP is demanding that the new Government of President Desmond Hoyte, who assumed power in August following the death of Forbes Burnham, hold free and fair elections.

It also criticized Guyanese, including Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal, who are in a position to let world leaders know of the plight of Guyanese, but instead turn a "blind eye" to the human rights injustices and indignities that parallels the South African model.

Quoting from speeches at CHOOM by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney calling for the elimination of apartheid, the GLDP said: "The Guyanese racist regime must go and give way to democracy with the objective to bring pride, joy and dignity to all Guyanese."

"The GLDP calls upon the Commonwealth Heads of Government to demand comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the Guyana's apartheid and illegal regime," the exiled opposition party said.

"Otherwise the options for Guyana's future will be reluctantly a violent revolution or extra-regional invasion by invitation, owing to the lack of will by the rest of the Caribbean and elsewhere to take peaceful yet firm action in support of the Guyanese peoples' struggle for liberty and survival," it added.

The GLDP said the only hope for socialist Guyanese lies in a change to a free enterprise and democratic system of Government.

According to the GLDP, Guyana has unlimited opportunities, an abundance of natural resources with enterprising people yet is financially and morally bankrupt and is a nation turned upside down.

"Many Guyanese fear that only a miracle like the Grenada invasion will bring about meaningful change," the GLDP said.

"Guyana, a South Africa in reverse, continues to afford a

corrupt minority black Marxist regime (now led by Desmond Hoyte) absolute power in their reign of terror," the exile group said.

It accused the late President Forbes Burnham, who died in August while undergoing an operation, of carrying out a "systematic and concerted campaign" to frustrate, harass and terrorize the majority of East Indians, Portuguese, Chinese and Amerindians living in Guyana.

"Burnham and his illegal Government are not the only ones to blame for this regrettable situation," GLDP said.

"Many prominent Indo-Guyanese aided and abetted this illegal regime to protect their own interest and personal gains. Today, many of these prominent Indo-Guyanese have sought refuge abroad among many others."

"Furthermore, there are Guyanese who are in a position to make known to world leaders the plight of Guyanese, but instead turn a blind eye to the Guyanese human rights injustices and indignities that parallels the South African model," it said.

"Regrettably one such individual being the respected Secretary General of the Commonwealth Shridath (Sonny) Ramphal," GLDP charged.

The opposition group said that the cultural, social and economic crisis in the country

has reduced Guyanese to living "hunted, fearful and depressing lives" as shortages of basic foods, disintegration of transportation, widespread malnutrition and collapsing health and education systems, make the main issue in Guyana one of survival.

"The most pressing issue is the violation of human rights in Guyana. The right to life, liberty and security of the person is seriously in question," it said, adding that Guyana has the highest militarization ratio of military and para-military forces to civilians in the Western hemisphere.

It said the unemployment level in Guyana is well over 45 per cent and climbing with no immediate solution in sight while a recent World Bank report showed Guyana's foreign debt at \$1.4 billion, which, added to the internal debt, makes a total of over \$9 billion Guyanese dollars.

The GLDP also quoted from a June, 1985, Aker foreign information service report which states that the Soviet Union is increasing its ability "unnoticed by America" to threaten the US from Guyana, only ten minutes away by missile.

The Aker report said that "The Essequibo backlands of Guyana have been transformed into the largest concentration of military bases outside the Soviet Union with over 1000 airfields, numerous military bases, communications centres, major guerilla bases and the build-up continues."

"This is a serious threat to the Western Hemisphere," the

GLDP said.

The GLDP said that if Governments and regional institutions had taken stronger action to condemn and isolate the Sir Eric Gairy administration for its human rights abuses in Grenada in the '70s, there would not have arisen the need or the popular demand for its forcible removal by the late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and the New Jewel Movement in March, 1979.

"The people of Guyana over the past two decades of illegal rule by the PNC have been made to suffer abuses worse than those suffered by Grenadians under Gairy," the GLDP said.

"Yet their (Guyanese) sacrifices, protests and non-cooperation with an illegitimate regime have to a great extent been blunted by a lack of support in the Caribbean and elsewhere by those who continue to carry on 'business as usual' with the Georgetown administration," the GLDP said.

The GLDP said that there has been widespread allegation of fraud during the last elections in Guyana and that an international team of observers concluded that "on the basis of abundant and clear evidence the election was rigged massively and flagrantly."

"In light of the impending general elections we demand of the Government to allow the entry into Guyana of the joint mission of the British Human Rights group and American Watch to monitor the general elections and the electoral laws and human rights practices in Guyana," the GLDP said.

/9274

CSO: 3298/116

JAMAICA

MANLEY, PNP POLITICAL VIEWS, ACTIONS DISCUSSED

Attack on 'Seaganomics'

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 5 Oct 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

"Seaganomics" yesterday came under fire from the People's National Party chairman, Mr. P.J. Patterson, who noted the "crash" of the dollar through the "\$6 barrier," a development which he said was an inevitable result of the "barren economic policies."

In a statement on behalf of the party executive, the PNP chairman said that obstinacy of the Seaga Government and its blind commitment to a market theory which was totally inappropriate for a country in its present state of development, had resulted in a stubborn refusal to admit that the policy was not working and would never succeed.

He blamed the decline of the dollar on the size of the trade deficit. The Government had proceeded to deregulate imports while export levels continued to fall, resulting in an increase of the trade deficit to "uncontrollable levels" and a deterioration of the adverse trade balance by 139.4 per cent in the first six months of 1985 against that of 1984.

The situation would worsen as "unmitigated disaster on all fronts" was foreseen by the Quarterly Economic and Social Report, and which indicators strongly suggested that the economy could not swim but would certainly sink unless there was an immediate change in course.

"To aggravate the deplorable economic situation was a tight monetary policy which was justified on the need to protect the plummeting dol-

lar but served to hinder production," Mr. Patterson said.

Noting that the much-heralded improvement in the balance of payments situation last year had evaporated, Mr. Patterson said that the news on fiscal performances was

equally dismal as there was a promise of further massive staff cuts in order to achieve a lower deficit target.

He predicted that staff cuts would be worse than those projected unless the slide of the dollar halted.

"How long are the people of Jamaica expected to suffer in silence from a Government without popular support or moral legitimacy?" he asked. "The Government is content to watch as a casual bystander while the cost of living hammer falls harder and harder on the helpless citizens," Mr. Patterson said.

The Party noted, he said, that in the middle of such "unprecedented chaos" Mr. Seaga continues his merry travels abroad as though the wreck of the economy was no big thing.

A negative growth of 6 per cent in 1985 could not be blamed on the management of the PNP in the 1970s; it could not be blamed on violence, sabotage or unpatriotic behaviour, he said, adding that after five years, the policies of "Seaganomics" have proven an abject failure.

"There has been no greater butcher of the national economy than the Seaga administration. The people cannot be expected to remain forever supine. The time has come to draw the line. The country has endured more than enough," he said.

He added: "Jamaica is in a state of economic disaster. It can only be rescued by a decision of the people. We must stop the rot before it's too late."

Defense of 1970's Policies

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 5 Oct 85 p 3

[Text]

Many of the policies implemented by the People's National Party Government of the 1970s were correct, and the Party was proud of those achievements and successes, Mr. Michael Manley, Party president, said in Washington D.C. earlier this week.

Mr. Manley expressed this view following an address to the Institute of Policy Studies in Washington, last Tuesday, in response to a question relating to comments made in Jamaica that the PNP's Alternative Policy was the same as it was in the 1970s.

A release from the PNP yesterday said that Mr. Manley dismissed this comment by pointing out that it could only have been based on the news reports of his address at the Public Session of the PNP's annual conference two Sundays ago.

He therefore excused those who had not yet seen or had not had the time to read the full text of the document, "or those who preferred to remain in the darkness of their own ignorance."

"You had better believe we will return to the carefully managed programme of protection for local industry to ensure it would set down deep roots and not be killed by the damped competition from massive overseas economies; and to have departed from it with deregulation was the ultimate in stupidity," he said.

The indifference by the present Government to Caricom was another area of concern to the PNP, he said, and it was the intention of a PNP Government to recognise the Caribbean area as a natural extension of the home market for Jamaica.

"Our productive sector can only perform from a platform of a large domestic market which would help unit cost and make our producers

more competitive. The PNP Government would therefore be returning to a policy of full commitment to Caricom.

"The PNP's Alternative Policy also called for a return to a dynamic land policy which would involve a strong element of land reform."

The release said Mr. Manley acknowledged that the former PNP administration had made mistakes — some of which were due to its inexperience and failure to come to terms with the enormous wrenching consequences of stagflation which had affected the country's structurally dependent economy.

"We were new to the problems affecting the world, and we did not handle them all as well as we should — perhaps because we did not fully understand their magnitude," he said.

However, the PNP's Alternative Policy which was designed to prepare the way to build a strong Jamaica in the 21st century, would rest on a base of self-reliance and a close working relationship with the private sector.

Foreign exchange would be prioritised and committed to development purposes, he said.

"We will do better next time with policies which have new elements as well as old. We do not intend to reinvent the wheel when we are returned to office, for there was a good wheel which existed in the seventies," Mr. Manley said. He added: "We only needed better spokes."

1983 Elections Strategy

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 6 Oct 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

WASHINGTON, October 5:

Mr. Michael Manley, President of the People's National Party, said here on Monday night that the PNP's decision not to participate in the Seaga elections of 1983 was deliberately done to create a peaceful crisis in the political system.

Mr. Manley made this comment during an address at the Cramton Auditorium of the Howard University in Washington, which was organised by the Caribbean Students Association and the Jamaica Progressive League, according to a PNP release.

It was the PNP's belief, he said, that the decision would have the impact of increasing the urgency for putting the final elements of electoral reform in place to secure free and fair elections in the future; and that never again would any leader have the temerity to tamper with the democratic parliamentary system which required respect for pledges, honour and political honesty.

"We still feel," he said, "that what we did was right and necessary. We have no apology for the decision because social and political pressures have since combined to insist on electoral reform, and honest elections are now guaranteed in Jamaica in perpetuity."

'Condemned to wait'

Mr. Manley said that the Prime Minister claimed that having created a one-party Parliament through an electoral coup d'etat, it meant that the Jamaican public was con-

demned to wait for eight years without real national elections.

Mr. Seaga had been to the country with promises in 1980 based on a five-year mandate. In the past five years he was given a "free and fair chance to prove his policies were right."

"He has a policy which is very clear to everybody," the PNP President said. "We have now presented an alternative which puts Jamaica and Jamaican first, to the chaos Seaga's policies have created — and that is also clear to everybody."

Mr. Manley said a fundamental principle was at stake. It was that in the system of Parliamentary democracy "the people must have the right to say whether they wished to continue the Seaga experiment or they wanted to move with the PNP to help to build a better Jamaica."

"We have not attempted to destabilise the Seaga Government, and now that the period which we think is legitimately his has just about expired, we have still not threatened him in any way. We have merely said he should do the right thing for Jamaica and for democracy, by calling the elections."

No guns, violence

"If he will not call the elections we have also made it clear we will not use guns or violence or subversion. We merely state clearly and implicitly we do not believe he has the right to stop the Jamaican people from exercising their democratic right after five years." Mr Manley said.

The PNP President hoped Mr. Seaga would do "what was right and decent to correct the deception and the rape of the political agreement and principle which he did in 1983." The PNP did not wish to quarrel about the need for elections as the country was desperately deep in problems forged by 'the Seaga experiment.'

"However, it was the PNP's view that, based on how it saw the future, it would establish systems to minimise the tribal fighting which had become endemic in Jamaican politics. It was on that basis that its policy called for the creation of National Councils on Education and Health, among other sectors--and on which the Opposition JLP would be represented--to provide for continuity and to institute mechanisms involving participation to obtain the greatest degree of consensus on how Jamaica should develop.

He said it was lunacy to see Jamaicans with identical problems, appearance and background, fighting each other because they were manipulated on behalf of a type of politics which was not based on reality, but was predicted on the distribution of political spoils.

Stone on PNP Alternative

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 9 Oct 85 p 8

[Article by Carl Stone]

[Text]

AN IMPORTANT point of departure in appraising the PNP's alternative is to identify how far the alternative differs from existing JLP policies and from PNP policy thinking and action in the 1970's.

Leftist critics attack the PNP's alternative for being too close to Mr. Seaga's policies while the JLP suggests that it is merely warmed over PNP socialism from the 1970's.

Both interpretations cannot be right.

Mr. Seaga's view of the PNP alternative is either deliberately mischievous or uninformed by a careful reading of the document he was given by Mr. Manley. The document makes it very clear that the PNP's thinking on a lot of matters has changed.

Nowhere in the document is there any expressed faith in ideological change towards socialism solving the country's problems. What emerges instead is a problem-focussed pragmatism that certainly did not exist in the PNP policy pronouncements in most of the post-1976 period.

Changes

The PNP has moved away from its earlier advocacy of government ownership to strategic areas of the mass media to a full commitment to government media divestment in the direction of community-based ownership.

In place of the 1970's emphasis on state ownership and control of the commanding heights of the economy, there emerges a more ideologically moderate prescription for government-private sector joint ventures.

The 1970's injectives and scolding of the private sector have been replaced by offers for co-operation, mutual confidence and public and private sector commonality.

No sweeping commitments towards redistributing wealth and assets are to be found in this new PNP version. Instead the focus is productionist rather than redistributive. The rhetoric of anti-imperialism is conspicuously absent.

What remains of the 1970's positions are quite clear. These include foreign policy non-alignment, faith in

co-operative and community based enterprises, economic planning, a high priority on social services and human resources development through social projects, an activist role for the state in the economy, the placing of job creation as a priority over fiscal prudence, a faith in participatory democracy and a belief that problems are best solved when the people's energies have been mobilised politically.

The PNP document makes it clear which JLP policies would be changed. These include the auction system, import deregulation, the tight fiscal policy, currency devaluation, uncritical acceptance of IMF adjustment policies, client relations with Washington, the downgrading of CARICOM and its value to us, the cut-backs in health and educational programmes, the emasculation of local government, the crippling monetary policy, and the attempt to allocate resources through free market policies.

These are positions which many critics of the JLP government actively support. Those who are making fun of the PNP's document had better bear that fact in mind.

More fundamentally, the PNP is lining up with a growing voice of criticism from Third World governments that IMF and World Bank imposed austerity measures have failed to bring about the much desired economic recovery and what we need to do is to return to policies that more actively seek to stimulate growth. Reflation versus deflation is very much at the heart of the divergence in JLP and PNP perspectives.

Big issue

The big issue is whether resources can be found to reflate our economy. I entirely agree with the reflation position as I have stated time and time. Indeed, that issue was very much at the centre of my first debate with the new BOJ Governor Dr. Headley Brown.

Notable economist, Professor Albert Fishlow, writing for the Inter-American Development Bank echoes the thoughts of many Third World policy makers, administrators, intellectuals, workers, consumers and businessmen in his recent castigation of IMF austerity measures and his persuasively stated case for economic policies that seek to reflate rather than deflate individual economies and the world economy.

But the big issue remains whether in a small economy like ours with a 50% level of import dependency, such reflation is feasible or likely to produce the desired results without extensive foreign or external support. Where is that going to come from in an economy that is hardly inspiring of creditors confidence; that gets money to borrow mainly because of the Seaga-Reagan connection or because Seaga is willing to follow the IMF's rigid policies; and that is unlikely to solve its earnings problems in the short or medium term?

Mr. Manley's faith in European Democratic Socialist governments sounds interesting but the storm clouds of another recession are hanging over Europe. With a combined unemployment level of over 30 million in the OECD countries it is more than an act of faith to expect substantial aid from that quarter.

Although Mr. Manley has publicly supported the Peruvian and international socialist position of arbitrarily reducing debt payments to a fixed proportion of hard currency earnings, that position does not surface in the Alternative, indicating the extent of the PNP's cautious flexibility in not committing itself too irrevocably to any policy position that might have to change depending on the economic "runnings".

The PNP is optimistic that it can again sell large quantities of bauxite to the Soviet Union and the communist bloc and raise substantial amounts of capital from sympathetic left-leaning international sources to finance state involvement in investment and production on a joint venture basis and in support of community enterprises.

The premises of those assumptions are not exactly convincing. If these hopes do not materialise what exactly will be the fate of the alternative without an appreciable growth of export earnings from alumina and without big capital borrowing on a government to government basis to revive the economy? It might not amount to much.

Is the new PNP heading for the same reality shock Mr. Seaga experienced between 1980 and 1983 when he thought he had a quick fix?

Where are the resources going to come from to correct the decay in education and health? Let's not forget that the decay started before the JLP came to power. It has just been

accelerated by stupid and insensitive fiscal policies.

Both parties are agreed that the long-term solution is to earn more, become more self reliant, increase investments and production and to restructure the economy to better hold its own in overseas markets.

Where they differ is on means rather than on ends.

Are we tough enough to achieve these goals in an adverse world situation?

Neither Manley nor Seaga nor anyone else can, find any quick fix or miracle solution to solve the problems overnight or over any short period. The solutions are long-term ones but the country is running out of patience by demanding short-term results. As I have said time and time again our political timetable is out of step with the economic timetable. The political cycles are too short but the timetable for economic solution is a long-term one.

Those who have trivialised the PNP's alternative are misguided in the same way as the many who blame all the problems on Seaga's policies.

Our effort

What is clear is that 90% of our problems and their solutions have nothing to do with either Seaga's or Manley's alternatives but whether we as a people have the toughness and inner strength to challenge our history and chart a stronger economic course in the face of adversity.

They can provide the leadership but it is our effort in the final analysis that will determine the outcome.

Mr. Seaga has got a bum rap by getting blame for problems that no one can solve in the short run. Mr. Manley is getting a bum rap from irresponsible critics who are disappointed that his party has not fashioned a credible quick fix.

Perhaps we would be better off by accepting the idea that none exist and the future has to be built by hard work, commitment, dedication and faith in ourselves.

Many believe that the new PNP and Manley will better inspire those qualities in us. Others, of course, disagree.

But let's at least keep the debate at a high level.

Patterson Questions to Seaga

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 Oct 85 p 2

[Text]

The Chairman of the People's National Party, Mr. P.J. Patterson has called on Prime Minister Edward Seaga for a declaration of what internal changes he would make in his economic policies as a result of "his awakening" on the International Monetary Fund.

Mr. Patterson was reacting to a speech made by Mr. Seaga in Korea on Wednesday in which the Prime Minister criticised the IMF on the drastic pace of change required under its programme.

In a statement Thursday, Mr. Patterson recalled previous favourable positions advanced by Mr. Seaga on the IMF during the 70s and when he

came to power, but "now that the economy is crashing around him, he has become a sudden convert of the need for change."

Mr. Patterson said that now Mr. Seaga seemed to recognise that there was a human element in the economic equation, the PNP called on him to state what he proposed to do to stop the mounting redundancies, the spiralling increases in the cost of living and the sinking of the Jamaican dollar.

Perhaps one day, Mr. Seaga might become an advocate of the need for the establishment of a New International Economic Order, Mr. Patterson said.

Blast at Foreign Exchange Auction

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

The President of the People's National Party, Mr. Michael Manley, said Thursday that the auction of foreign exchange and its consequent escalation of the devaluation of the Jamaican dollar was destroying the economy and sapping the morale of the productive sector.

In a telephone call from Oslo, Norway, to the Party's General Secretary, Dr. Paul Robertson, the PNP President asked that his concern be made known to the public, according to a release from the PNP.

Mr. Manley said that reports in Europe indicated that various productive sector groups in Jamaica were becoming alarmed at the deteriorating economic situation. It appeared however, he said, that Mr. Seaga was oblivious to the problem as he had not shown any inclination to adjust any of his economic policies which were ruining the country

and destroying the productive base. Without the means on which production can be built the chaos would get worse.

"Mr. Seaga cannot continue making decisions in the comfort of air-conditioned offices while the rest of Jamaica is being roasted in the heat of the hell-fire his policies have fanned into flame," he said.

Mr. Manley said the auction, the devaluations and the credit squeeze cannot solve the nation's economic problems. He said Jamaica had been competitive in export markets for a long time, but with the erosion of the J\$, the business sector could do no forward planning.

Jamaica, he said, was paying the charges billed by Mr. Seaga in the form of a high price of suffering, but the people were receiving no gains. It was time for the madness to stop, he demanded.

Meeting With Media

FL282333 Bridgetown CANA in English 2211 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Kingston, Oct 28--Opposition People's National Party (PNP) leader Michael Manley today met members of the board of the powerful GLEANER newspaper to discuss PNP policies should it be returned to office.

GLEANER Chairman Oliver Clarke declined comment on the near two-hour meeting, but PNP sources said the talks were frank and open, with the party making its policies known.

Public opinion polls here indicate that Manley and his party, which left office in 1980, would easily win a general election.

During the 1970's the conservative daily opposed the Manley government's socialist policies.

In 1980, Manley led a demonstration against the GLEANER. However, relations between the PNP and the GLEANER have warmed a bit since then and earlier this year Manley withdrew a libel suit against the GLEANER and former columnist John Hearne. There was an out-of-court settlement.

Apart from the GLEANER board members, Manley today met church leaders and diplomats.

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CSO: 3298/108

JAMAICA

SEAGA'S MEDIA POLICY UNDER FIRE, GIVEN ELUCIDATION

GLENER Reaction

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Oct 85 p 8

[Text]

The implications in the Public Media Policy for the control by Government of the news output over the various fragmented sections of the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation hold such frightening consequences for the people of Jamaica that the Government, if it is truly interested in the free flow of news and information, should prior to implementation throw the policy open for a free vote in Parliament, taking the opportunity to explain its motives.

Indeed a media policy is of such major importance, not only for the present but for the future as well, that the general population ought to be given a chance to study it in all its details so that they can understand all its ramifications, not just for the electronic media but for the print media as well. It is important for the people to know how the media will be allowed to grow and develop, and that the people's right to unfettered news and information is not put in jeopardy by government regulation.

The need for a public examination of the present policy announced by Prime Minister Seaga on September 4 becomes all the more urgent when it is remembered that the present

Government has a total monopoly over the House of Representatives by virtue of the absence of any parliamentary opposition, and that in the likelihood of the policy not being put to the House on the basis of a free vote, then it is only in the Senate that there is likely to be any strong dissenting voice to what is proposed.

The present policy is deficient in all the respects highlighted by the Chairman and Managing Director of the Gleaner Company in his speech last week to the Rotary Club of Downtown Kingston and published in full in the *Sunday Gleaner*.

As Mr. Clarke pointed out, it is "misleading; it is incomplete; it is contradictory, and admits a level of incompetence in the Government-owned media without suggesting any remedy." We share the misgivings of our Chairman that overall, the policy "is not in the best interest of the public."

The weaknesses in the policy leave us with a cold feeling that not a great deal of thought was given to the possibility of abuse and manipulation by a government which felt, for example, that a lessee

was not sufficiently supportive of that government. What we find disturbing is that Mr. Seaga, who was most vociferous against the misuse of the JBC by the PNP when it was in power in the 1970s, should have, by the formulation of a half-baked and ill-conceived policy, left the door open for the perpetration of similar abuses by this or a future government.

We are forced to wonder whether the policy is the outcome of the considered collective judgment of the Government. If it is, then what it holds out for the Jamaican people is all the more horrifying. Indeed what it would mean is that we have a government that is unconcerned about freedoms, including the right to free expression. We do not believe this to be the case. The alternative is really very frightening to contemplate.

The Jamaican people should challenge the Government to put the policy before Parliament on the basis of a free vote so that they can see where their representatives stand on this issue.

GLEANER Advertisements

[Editorial Report] Starting on 13 October 1985, Kingston's THE SUNDAY (and DAILY) GLEANER begins running full-page advertisements aimed at Prime Minister Seaga's announced media policy. The ad is as follows:

Warning!

There may soon come a time when a government decides to take full political control over what the people hear on radio and see and hear on television.

Full political control so that it may suppress the people's freedom and abuse their rights. There is no guarantee that this won't happen with government retaining effective control of all of the means of broadcasting as it now proposes.

A government that truly had the people's welfare at heart would give up that control of radio and television.

Give it up so that broadcasting will be free of any one-sided political bias regardless of who governs.

**Government Control of
Radio and Television
Encourages Political Abuse
of Broadcasting!**

[A Message in the Public Interest from the Gleaner Company Limited]

JMA Call for Review

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Oct 85 p 3

[Text]

The Jamaica Manufacturers' Association (JMA) joins with the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (PSOJ) and all other associations in calling for the Government to review its media policy and give to Jamaica a genuinely competitive and free press, President of the JMA, Mr. J. Paul Thomas, said Wednesday.

In his address to the monthly board of directors' meeting of the JMA at the association's headquarters at Duke Street, Kingston, Mr. Thomas said:

"Since our last board meeting, the Government's media policy has been outlined to the nation. I am sure it is of great concern to all freedom-loving Jamaicans — the many contradictions which seem apparent in the announced policy and which appear to be in total contradiction with the objectives of providing Jamaica with a

free press, both radio and news print. One can't but wonder if now the shoe is on the other foot (you will pardon the pun), there is genuine lack of commitment to achieving the ideals and goals which were campaigned for, when this Government was the Opposition."

He added that his organisation joined with other associations for the Government to review its media policy.

On this pronouncement, the well-attended meeting applauded.

In another vein, Mr. Thomas said it was appropriate that as they celebrated National Heritage Week and reflected on the deeds of the National Heroes "who fought to create the democracy we call Jamaica," they should take stock of the many problems confronting the nation.

He said the recent statement by the Hon. Carlton Alexander (former president of the PSOJ) that reality dictated that they in the productive sector commit themselves to swim or sink for the next 10 to 15 years, was an accurate assessment of current problems.

Mr. Thomas continued: "We in Jamaica, are too inclined to seek solutions to our nation's problems, by the quick-fix approach of a change of political leadership. It can be said that many of our political leaders have played on this weakness by

holding out the promise of overnight solutions, while it has been easier for us all to avoid facing reality by continually seeking a new Messiah. It is a great game of national fantasy which we have been playing since Independence."

Mr. Thomas suggested however that the time had come for everybody to recognise that the future rested not in the hands of any political master, but in the people's own convictions and commitment to find a better way for Jamaica.

He said this was one of the principal lessons to be learnt from the National Heroes, and they should draw on that last ounce of resolve, guided by the example of the National Heroes, to strive for a better future for all.

Seaga Defense

FL020303 Bridgetown CANA in English 0238 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Kingston, Nov 1--The Jamaica Government and the influential GLEANER newspaper remained at loggerheads today over the state's media policy.

Responding to a series of full-page GLEANER advertisements blasting the policy, Prime Minister Edward Seaga said the government had to guard against changes in media ownership that would subject the country to the views of one person.

Seaga detailed his media policy during a parliamentary address in early September, announcing increased private participation in the financially-troubled state-run radio and TV business. He made it clear, however, that existing media houses would not be allowed to buy into the business or to set up a station.

The GLEANER, which had been trying for several years to obtain a radio and/or television licence, complained that Seaga's policy commits Jamaica to a continuing state of government control of the means for broadcasting, with its resultant danger of political control of radio and television broadcasts.

In his monthly call-in programme, Seaga defended the media policy while remarking that one man, whom he did not identify, was apparently trying to take full control of the more than 150-year-old GLEANER. The GLEANER, of course, owns 100 per cent of THE DAILY GLEANER, said Seaga. It owns 100 per cent of THE SUNDAY GLEANER. It owns 100 per cent of THE WEEKLY GLEANER, it owns 100 per cent of THE OVERSEAS GLEANER. It owns 100 per cent of the TOURIST GUIDE. It owns 100 per cent of THE CHILDREN'S OWN. It owns 100 percent of THE WESTERN WEEKLY. And...we understand that there's a gentlemen who wants to own 100 per cent of THE GLEANER.

Now, what that means (is) one person may very well end up owning the various forms of media in the country and we would all be subject to the views of one person. No government in their right sense would ever allow that.

Seaga said that the United States does not allow a radio station to own a television station or vice versa. They keep them all neat and separate, he commented. That is all that we have done.

In September, Seaga announced that the state-run radio and TV business, the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation (JBC) would lose its morning TV to a private company operating Monday to Friday for about three hours daily. JBC would lose the AM radio service to other private interests, which would also manage three radio stations.

Seaga said that all new stations would be required to allow time for state broadcasts by the Jamaica Information Service. The government will hold 25 per cent of the shares in all companies, including those operating leased JBC services.

Seaga also proposed establishment of a Public Broadcasting Corporation (PBC) to coordinate production and transmission of programming in education, culture, sports and public affairs and to be broadcast on JBC-TV and radio FM.

As financing allows, Seaga told Parliament, educational, cultural, sports, and public affairs programming would eventually be broadcast on a separate channel, operated by the Public Broadcasting Corporation, and using the modern facilities of the CPTC (Creative Production and Training Centre Ltd) at Canewood.

He added: Eventually, after the new policies are clearly established and running successfully, JBC-TV will also be leased to the private sector on the same policy basis as the new proposal for leasing the morning segment of its current operations.

In due course, therefore, television will offer one channel (private sector) fully devoted to entertainment, including the development of local entertainment programming, and a second channel (public sector) devoted to the broadcast of public affairs, education, sports and culture.

Last month, the GLEANER's chairman and managing director, Oliver Clarke, asserted: The government has not given up control of a single entity. He told businessmen that Seaga's media policy was not well thought out, was misleading and contradictory.

On government's exclusion of media businesses from ownership of JBC interests, Clarke said: It is entirely contradictory to attempt to use concentration of ownership to disqualify people already in the media and not apply the same criteria to government.

The government has given private interests majority shareholding in the other radio service here, RJR; it has a 25 per cent shareholding in the company.

The opposition People's National Party (PNP), among the main critics of the media policy, called on Seaga to sell off the shareholding in both RJR and JBC. The Seaga government has been selling off troubled state-owned businesses against a background of bleak economic circumstances here.

Explaining the position of the JBC, Seaga told Parliament: ...while a certain amount of streamlining of operations has taken place, resulting in increased earnings, other factors have prevented the JBC from achieving real financial viability. He added: among these factors are excessive staffing, increased power costs, higher equipment costs, tighter credit restrictions and increased overdraft service charges.

The result of all this is that JBC has operated at a loss on a basis requiring indirect Government of Jamaica support by way of bank guarantees and related measures.

Clarke has criticised the government and JBC management for failing to publish the corporation's audited accounts for three years. He said this was important information for the potential leasees of any of JBC's systems.

In the meantime, the GLEANER is insisting on a parliamentary debate of Seaga's media policy. It said the grave implications of the policy made the debate necessary. It suggested that every MP should be free to vote on the issue as his conscience dictates.

A people's representative sincere in his outlook for the people's welfare would not help to make it possible for some government to take political control of broadcasting, the paper remarked.

/8309

CSO: 3298/111

SEAGA BACKS AREA SECURITY BUT NO JAMAICAN PARTICIPATION

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by Vincent Tulloch]

[Text]

NASSAU, Oct. 16
(From Vincent Tulloch)

Prime Minister Seaga today pledged Jamaica's support for a recommendation of a Commonwealth Study Group which calls for support for regional security forces; but he stressed that Jamaica would not join any such regional grouping.

The report of the Commonwealth Study Group set up after the 1983 Summit in India recommended that funds from the organisation be used to finance security systems for small states that cannot pay for their own security.

Prime Minister Seaga said that Jamaica would not be a part of such a security grouping but would provide technical and other assistance if asked to do so.

In fact, said Seaga, Jamaica already helped in assisting some countries with technical training for their security forces.

He said already Jamaica carries out joint exercises with Britain, Puerto Rico and other nations.

This was expressed in a meeting with the Jamaican press in Nassau this evening.

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CSO: 3298/107

TRIPARTITE GOVERNMENT-UNION-EMPLOYER MEETING SLATED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Oct 85 p.2

[Text] A tripartite (Government/Labour/Employer) meeting sponsored by the International Labour Organization (ILO) is to be held in Kingston, November 25-29, the Minister of Labour, the Hon. J.A.G. Smith, said on Monday.

Mr. Smith told a press briefing at his Ministry that it was expected that 10 representatives from each member of the tripartite would attend the meeting, which will be local in content.

The meeting is expected to examine the theme: "Industrial Relations and Tripartism In an Environment of Structural Change."

Mr. Smith said that it was "useful and necessary" for the three members of the tripartite to get together harmoniously to discuss the implications of the changing times.

The Minister also spoke about his recent visit to the United States where he met the U.S. Secretary of Labour, Mr. William Brock, to discuss problems arising

from the 'Wilson Amendment' to U.S. immigration laws which was passed recently by the U.S. Senate.

Mr. Smith confirmed that the amendment would create problems for the U.S.-Caribbean Farm Work Programme, if passed by Congress.

He said that the amendment, which would allow up to 350,000 "undocumented" or illegal farm workers to stay in the United States as long as they could retain work, would affect the Jamaican programme "to the extent that it is not illegal to employ an undocumented worker, and it would be cheaper (to the employer) because they do not have the constraints as is in the case of the documented workers. Accommodation is one example. Another thing is that we look at standards and they would have nobody looking at standards: it will be every man for himself."

Mr. Smith also spoke about his visit to apple growing farms in several states including New York, which he said was the first visit by a Jamaican Minister of Labour to those areas.

He described the accommodation for the workers as good and said that there were currently about 5,000 Jamaican farm workers in those areas, despite the frost and other problems facing the growers.

Jamaica was also trying to get workers into the citrus and vegetable growing areas and hopefully this would begin to bear fruit soon.

BAUXITE INDUSTRY 'NOT BEING WRITTEN OFF' BY GOVERNMENT

Industry Official's Views

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 11 Oct 85 pp 17, 22

[Text]

MANDEVILLE, Mr., Oct. 9 (From our correspondent):

Government is now planning to restructure bauxite mining operations in Jamaica so that only one north coast plant and one south coast plant will undertake the country's bauxite operations, said Dr. Carlton Davis, executive director of the Jamaica Bauxite Institute, yesterday.

Dr. Davis, in an address to the Mandeville Rotary Club at the Alcan Badminton Hut, said that the restructuring was a necessary measure to enhance Jamaica's competitiveness in the world of bauxite mining. The restructuring would not be done without the agreement and co-operation of the bauxite companies, said Dr. Davis; nevertheless it would have to be finalised before the 1990s.

"I do not think we can continue to let our (bauxite) industry go into the 1990s having 1½ million-ton mines competing with 5-million and 10-million and maybe even 15 million-ton (mines) abroad, because the competitiveness problem is going to be thrown at us again and there is no way that we can continue to see the devaluation of the Jamaican dollar as an answer to that problem, he said."

Dr. Davis said it was his strong personal view that the devaluation of the Jamaican dollar had done nothing to benefit the bauxite sector. He showed, by means of a photo slide, that since 1980, when it took US \$54 to buy one Jamaican dollar, to the time he was speaking, when the rate was US \$6.54 to one Jamaican dollar, the production of bauxite had been halved.

"We have found that the reaction of the sector to the devaluation has been perverse. That is, production has fallen as the currency has fallen. And it is one of those things that the Government must give its attention to, since the bauxite companies have a number of options, including not having to pay the very high taxes required to continue their operations here when things get too expensive," Dr. Davis said.

"I am not so sure if the people who have to deal with the exchange rate thought about this, that if 75% of your exchange earnings, which is what bauxite was — it is now about 65% — is not reacting to the pressure, then one must ask whether the measure is going to be able to make that 25% hitherto do all the things that the 75% was not capable of doing."

He told the Rotarians, many of whom were bauxite-industry workers, that he was seeking to outline for them the major causes for the present crisis in

the bauxite/alumina industry, the worst that has ever been; and he pointed out some steps that the Government was now taking to check the present malaise and hopefully restore some vitality to the industry

DR. DAVIS EMPHASISED that the Government had no intention of "writing off" bauxite as one of the major sources of foreign-exchange earning for Jamaica; because until now only Tourism since 1985 had earned more foreign exchange in any one year, and it was not possible to replace bauxite as a major foreign exchange source for many years to come.

The effects of the decline in bauxite included reduced foreign-exchange earning, devaluation of the Jamaican dollar, less Government revenue, more taxation on an already overtaxed economy, and increased unemployment, he said.

The malaise in the industry was caused by internal as well as external factors. External causes included the state of the international economy, the decline in the rate of growth in consumption and in the price of aluminium, the decline in the production of aluminium in the United States which is Jamaica's major bauxite and alumina consumer, and a decline in the fortunes of two of Jamaica's major bauxite companies, namely Kaiser and Reynolds.

Internal problems included the existence of the "take-or-pay contracts" and other such restrictive arrangements, the country's dependence on oil, excessive oil consumption by at least one bauxite plant in Jamaica, and admittedly the differential in tax arrangement with the various bauxite companies: namely, the bauxite levy.

Bauxite and alumina consumption worldwide was correlated to economic growth, he said, and he quoted statistics to show that the declining economic growth rate in the U.S.A. and OECD countries had led to drastic reduction in bauxite consumption since 1974. The massive external debt problem of Lesser Developed Countries had complicated the crisis, since these countries were expected to fill the gap of decline demand but could not do so since they had to give priority to their basic economic needs.

The take-or-pay contract meant that some countries had to satisfy their market volume obligations to supply bauxite and alumina regardless of the market price, while the other suppliers who had no such contract had to share the remaining available demand. For example, Jamaica's two major competitors — Guinea in West Africa and Brazil — controlled 50% of the total world bauxite trading market. Several European plants also existed due to their

take-or-pay contracts, most of which extended to the 1990s, explained Dr. Davis.

Jamaica's oil dependency and the excessive use of oil by a bauxite company less than 100 miles from Mahderville meant that at \$US22 a barrel, up from US\$1.50 in 1972, bauxite operations here had become less and less cost-effective.

TURNING TO THE VARIOUS MEASURES that the Government was taking to check the malaise in the bauxite industry, Dr. Davis noted that constant discussions were being held with the bauxite companies to find ways to reduce local production cost. In addition, bauxite levy rebates amounting to many million dollars over the past ten years had been paid to bauxite companies. The levy itself had also been reviewed downwards and discussions were currently being held to find other ways of sharing the burden of taxation instead of having any one company having to bear the brunt of it.

Furthermore, the Government and Alcan had started to examine the long-term possibility of using coal as a major energy source so as to change from full to partial dependency on oil, Dr. Davis disclosed.

The marketing problem, which seemed to be the main one, was being tackled from various angles.

No Alpart Reopening

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Oct 85 p 3

[Excerpt]

Efforts to "find a viable alternative" to permit an early re-opening of Alpart's operations have not been successful, according to a statement from the company yesterday.

"It is therefore anticipated that the temporary suspension of operations at Alpart will endure beyond the six months time frame referenced in the Collective Labour Agreement between Alpart and the National Workers Union," the statement said.

Alpart continued to be in such "gross over-supply" that the company was not able to compete successfully under the world market conditions which existed at this time," the Company's statement added.

It said that meetings were in process of being scheduled to discuss matters affecting employees resulting from the decision. Workers had been told that the company expected to be in a position to advise them of the "near-termed" future of the plant on or before November 26.

General Manager, Mr. Ed Coyne, the statement said, paid tribute to employees for the very professional manner and conduct in their accomplishing the difficult task of an orderly and safe shutdown.

Mothballing operations would continue until around December 15, 1985, with a crew of about 190; after which a crew of 80 to 90 would be required to ensure that the facility remained in restart capability, the statement said.

Alpart ceased operations in August, throwing 1,200 workers out of employment as a result of a fall in both demand and the price per ton of alumina on the international market.

Alcoa Successes

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 22 Oct 85 p 1, 3

[Excerpts]

The Alcoa alumina plant at Halse Hall, Clarendon which closed in February has been breaking "every target set" since re-opening on August 1 and is to go to full capacity for the first time ever, in the next six weeks.

Mr. E. Gerry Dudley, managing director of Alcoa, which was acquired by the Government and is being managed by Alcoa on behalf of the Government as Clarendon Alumina Productions Ltd. (CAP), told the Gleaner in an exclusive interview last week that what has happened since the re-opening has been "nothing but remarkable."

Production targets in the mines were being met, railroading records were being broken and fuel use which was always good had improved, making Alcoa's energy use "far and away the best in the island," Mr. Dudley said.

The plant was now being manned by about 680 employees which was a reduction of the 800 employed at the closure, although production levels at the moment were the same or a bit more than then. Since re-opening Alcoa had been producing between 1,000 and 1,100 tons of alumina daily. There had been three shipments already with another scheduled for this weekend. Full production at a capacity of 800,000 tons per year, a level the plant had never reached, will be effected on December 2 he said.

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CSO: 3298/110

JLP PLANS RETREAT TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC POLICIES

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 14 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] Jamaica Labour Party officials will go into a "serious" retreat at the end of this month to discuss the effects of the economic policy direction of the Government as well as plans for the Party's long overdue annual conference.

Sources in the party see the retreat as a "historic" exercise as the outcome may herald a radical change in the policy direction of the party since it came to power in a landslide victory at the polls in October 1980.

General Secretary, Mr. Ryan Peralto confirmed that there were plans to hold the dual retreat between Party and Government around month-end to hammer out details for the annual conference year the end of November.

But he declined to say whether the retreat would focus on the party's economic policy.

Unconfirmed reports are that a Cabinet reshuffle would be one of the key proposals to be put forward at the retreat. The JLP's Cabinet has remained unchanged since the '80 elections.

A key JLP source told the GLEANER on the week-end that Party constituency leaders would get the opportunity to speak on national issues, chief among which was the rapid decline of the Jamaican dollar producing untold hardships on the people.

The source said that there was widespread concern among members of Parliament that the effects of the dollar's decline evident in unchecked price increases were isolating them from grassroots support.

Several MPs are said to be working behind the scenes to get broad support to convince the front-line leadership to nudge the Government into finding ways of easing the pressure off the very poor.

They are expected to agitate for a detailed explanation of exactly what benefits are likely to be gained from the auction system, the source said.

"This will be a sort of opening of the heart following which a careful explanation of the policies is expected," according to the source. We want to know what is going on so that we can defend whatever it is," according to the source.

The JLP has already had a retreat this year, but this was before the dramatic decline of the Jamaican dollar to its present rate of \$6.10 to the US dollar.

The impression that was given at the last retreat, the source said, was that the dollar would be flexible enough to move both up and down "but we find that it's only going one way: down."

There is a desire among MPs to know what are the alternatives to this aspect of the economic policy.

Prime Minister Edward Seaga whose popularity has been waning nationally will preside at the retreat following his round of engagements abroad.

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CSO: 3298/108

PRICES OF BASIC FOOD ITEMS RISE, SPARKING GOVERNMENT ACTION

PNP Reaction

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 Oct 85 p'1

[Text]

The price of three basic food items — counter flour, sugar and milk powder — have been increased. The price of flour is now \$1.16 a lb. up from \$1.10, while rice goes from \$1.75 to \$1.82 per lb and milk powder from \$2.45 to \$2.53.

These items are no longer on the list of controlled items.

Mr. Karl Samuda, Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, told the *Gleaner* yesterday that the prices were raised by distributors who claimed they were "under pressure" from the continuous devaluation of the Jamaican dollar which had increased their operational costs.

He pointed out that these products were imported by the Jamaica Commodity Trading Company which had not increased the prices to the distributors. The Prices Commission,

he said, had been instructed to study the increases being imposed on the various items and if these were found unreasonable Government would suggest ways in which the consumers could resist.

Meanwhile, Miss Portia Simpson, the People's National Party's spokesperson for Consumers Affairs, issued a statement condemning the price increases and said that the increases "will put basic food items even further out of the reach of the average consumer."

She said that a direct consequence of these increases would be the further deterioration in the nation's health and she spoke of a growth in malnutrition among children.

She called on consumers to "be ready to firmly resist price increases caused by this callous Government and so help to protect their standard of living."

Bread Increase; Milk Rollback

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 14 Oct 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts]

CONSUMERS WILL START PAYING MORE for bread as of this morning — the third increase since this year. Bakers decided yesterday that the new retail price would be \$3.85 per 2-lb loaf, an increase of 45 cents.

The increase in the price of bread is the latest in a new round of price increases on basic food items beginning with increases in processed milk, nearly ten days ago and last weekend rice, flour and milk powder.

Condensed milk which was removed from price control has had two increases so far this year, the latest only two weeks ago, moving the Betty brand to \$2.50 per tin and Nestle to \$2.70.

The increase in bread prices and threatened increase in condensed milk drew a sharp response from the Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Mr. Karl Samuda yesterday evening. He said he had been expecting an increase of no more than 30 cents on the price of each loaf of bread and his Ministry would this morning make a quick look at all the costs involved to the bakers.

If the increase was unjustified, he said, "I am going to deal with them and call on the public to resist the increase." At the same time, the president of the Jamaica Retailers

Association, Mr. Wallace Campbell, told the *Gleaner* at the weekend that retailers would meet this week to increase the price of condensed milk to get a more realistic margin. He said there was no need for further increases in condensed milk.

Mr. Samuda will again meet with retailers, processors and farmers to try to set an acceptable price for processed milk which was unilaterally increased by processors on Saturday, October 5 from \$2.50 per quart to \$3.25

Mr. Samuda said no one should take it that decontrolling the price of any food item meant that the government left itself impotent to unjustified increases.

People increasing the prices of items on this assumption would do so at their own peril, Mr. Samuda said. "I will leave no stone unturned to deal with people who want to suck the last ounce of blood from consumers" he said.

Following an emergency meeting at the Wexford Court Hotel yesterday the following statement was released to the *Gleaner* Western Bureau:

"The bakers wish to point out that if the flour is de-regulated, they would be in a position to reduce the price appreciably to the consumer."

At present bakers are forced to buy their flour from distributors.

Under deregulation, the bakers said they would determine for themselves who to buy their flour from. Further, "if it is deregulated we would not be locked into a quota system either," according to a spokesman.

According to the bakers, they now have to buy 100-lb of flour for \$97.20, up from \$90 from the distributors. It has been pointed out that although other baked products had been controlled they too would be subjected to proportionate price increases.

A spokesman said that the mood of yesterday's meeting was that bakers would prefer not to increase the price of bread at this time, but added that they were left with no choice. The last time the price of bread was increased, sales dropped by about 25%, and this is likely to happen again.

[Editor's Note: In a page-1 story on 18 October, THE DAILY GLEANER reported: "Milk processors agreed yesterday to roll back the price of a quart of milk to \$3.15 from the original \$3.25 they were demanding, following prolonged negotiations with the Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Hon. Karl Samuda. Under the new formula, the farmer will get \$1.88 per imperial quart, up from \$1.70; the processors will sell at \$2.44 per U.S. quart, up from \$2; and the retailers will sell at \$3.15 per quart, up from \$2.50."

"The processors had rejected the \$3.15 and held to their proposal of \$3.25 at a meeting last week Friday. The minister then decided to withdraw the supply of skimmed milk powder to the processors until the matter was resolved. He also called on them to submit financial records to justify their demands."]

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CSO: 3298/110

PRIVATE SECTOR GROUP OFFERS ALTERNATIVE ECONOMIC PLAN

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

A blueprint for long-term economic progress, with alternatives to Government's economic policies, was presented yesterday morning at a press conference at the Wyndham Hotel, New Kingston, by the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (P.S.O.J.).

The plan, which took a year of study and analysed the economy of Jamaica over the past 23 years, since Jamaica became independent, called for less Government control of the economy, and more private sector participation.

It said governments over the period had been ad hoc and inefficient.

Chairman of the P.S.O.J., Mr. Elon Beckford, told the gathering of press people and members of the diplomatic corps that the document was named "A Policy Framework for Economic Development in Jamaica," and was prepared by the P.S.O.J.'s Economic Strategy Committee.

It comprised a mix of businessmen and technicians, and was a philosophical prescription.

He said: "It supports a market system, because it is felt that this provides the best method of allocating factors of production efficiently within the economy."

A market system eliminated the discretionary, administrative and inefficient bureaucratic and political controls over decision making, he said.

"However, this is not to suggest, as some seem to think, that there is no place in a market economy for Government, or that the less fortunate in society will be cast by the wayside."

He said detailed policy papers, which would support the philosophical outline presented were before the Economic Strategy Committee and would be made public "very soon." Research Papers before the Committee were: External Trade, the Exchange Rate Policy; Divestment; the Role of the Government in the Economy; Fiscal and Monetary Policy and Banking and Financial Institutions.

Mr. Beckford said: "After all is said and done, there can be no improvement in our economy unless there is a substantial increase in foreign exchange earnings, and restructuring of our international debts to compensate for the bauxite/alumina fall-out and the massive debt service which is the result of external borrowings by successive Governments. The supply side is the key and it is here that the P.S.O.J.'s document concentrates. The main tenets are to reduce Government involvement in the productive economy, reverse the trend of resource transfer to the inefficient public sector from the efficient private, productive sector.

"If there is to be deregulation, this must be concurrent with the introduction of an effective Customs regime; reform the tax system to encourage investment. We adopt the joint P.S.O.J., Jamaica Employers' Federation and Jamaica Manufacturers' Association's export incentive package presented to Government.

"Provide direct access without

commercial bank guarantees to the NDB and ACB funds for exporters and import substitution producers; post-shipment financing without commercial bank guarantees and pre-shipment financing with appropriate Bank of Jamaica control mechanisms."

Export was the name of the game, he said, and the most rapid development of its potential could only be realised when the policy environment was conducive.

"We think the P.S.O.J. policy framework for economic development in Jamaica provides the prescription necessary to create this environment."

Mr. Delroy Lindsay, Director of Economic Affairs and Research, P.S.O.J., said the press conference represented only the first in a series of public presentations of the document. They intended to hold several other presentations to which members of the public would be invited and encouraged to offer criticisms, comments and suggestions.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO CURB IMPORTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Oct 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

A call for the Government to take immediate steps to intervene to protect the falling Jamaican dollar by curbing imports of foreign goods for Christmas, was made in Parliament yesterday by Mr. Jeremy Palmer, Member of Parliament for South East St. Elizabeth.

"The Government has a duty to look at this because we can't allow people to pressure the dollar because they want to spend at Christmas," Mr. Palmer declared as he raised the matter on the motion for adjournment.

Following the adjournment, Mr. Palmer told the Gleaner that he would like to see the placing of some items back on the restricted list of imports and the banning of others. He listed toys and such items as ham, garments and food he would like banned.

"We need a real austerity Christmas to hold the dollar at a tolerable level. If we didn't have this import madness, the dollar wouldn't be pressured," he said.

He told the House that the falling rate of the dollar and the effect that it would have on prices could not be masked. He expressed support for the auction system which he said was responding well to supply and demand. Examples of Government's attempts to control demand on the dollar were seen in the level of interest rates, the credit squeeze and the liquidity ratio.

However, Mr. Palmer said that the Government should "further intervene" on the side of restricting demand. "We cannot afford to continue like that; some brake has got to be put on demand for foreign goods at Christmas," he added.

The Member of Parliament predicted that there would be trouble in January as there was a point at which the dollar could go and the masses could not bear the pressure of prices any longer.

It was time he said that the Government should intervene on the side of demand by restricting foreign goods. There should be a curb on imports between now and the end of the year.

"The Government has a duty to look at this because we can't allow people to pressure the dollar because they want to spend at Christmas," he said.

House Leader, the Hon. J.A.G. Smith, said that many Jamaicans shared the sentiments of Mr. Palmer but that the matter raised could not be taken under the motion for adjournment because it would require legislation or a substantial motion.

Mr. Smith added that it was out of deference and caution that he had to make the explanation that no debate could be taken place on Mr. Palmer's concerns.

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CSO: 3298/108

SEVEN HONG KONG FIRMS PLAN TO SET UP LOCAL PLANTS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

SEVEN NEW manufacturing plants are to be set up in Jamaica by Hong Kong investors over the next six to nine months.

Current Hong Kong investors have indicated plans to expand their manufacturing operations in the island over the next year and preliminary discussions have been concluded on a J\$439 million hotel and resort development company in Jamaica.

Decision on these ventures follows talks between Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga, at an investment promotion programme organized by the Jamaica National Investment Promotion Ltd. (JNIP) in Hong Kong over the weekend. The investors have been working with the JNIP's Hong Kong office and were awaiting the meeting with Prime Minister Seaga.

According to Jampress, the seven new projects have a combined capital investment of J\$87 million, employing over 4,000 people and utilising 300,000 square feet of factory space. All will be 100 per cent manufacturing for export and the majority will be set up in the freezone area. Five are in the apparel industry and for the first time there will be projects in electrical and electronics assembly and the assembly of magnetic tapes.

The expansion programme by current Hong Kong investors will lead to the employment of 3,000

more people in the Kingston freezone as well as creating substantial new employment outside the Kingston freezone.

Yesterday the Prime Minister hosted a luncheon in honor of the existing Hong Kong investors. Representatives were Mr. Y.L. Yang of Esquel Ltd., Mr. Robert Lee of Alfsia Ltd., Mr. Alex Chan of Bagutta Ltd. and Dr. Onshue of Mignia Ltd. Other guests included Mr. Len Dunning, former executive director of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council. Also attending were Mrs. Corrine McLarry, managing director of the JNIP, Mr. Audley Shaw group director, marketing and overseas offices, JNIP, and Mr. Mark Ashton, director JNIP Hong Kong office.

Saturday night Mr. Seaga and his delegation were guests at a dinner hosted by Dr. Geoffrey Yeh, Jamaica's Honorary Consul to Hong Kong.

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CSO: 3298/110

NO CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM FOUND IN TRADE-BALANCE FIGURES

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Oct 85 p 18

[Article by Raymond Forrest]

[Text] **ONE OF THE MAJOR REASONS** behind the contraction of the Jamaican economy has been the adverse performance of the merchandise trade account, i.e. the export-import trade balance, over the years. The latest figures emanating from the National Planning Institute give very little room for much optimism this year, with the external trade deficit predicted to rise.

It means that the economy will contract at an even faster rate than before our policy-makers began tinkering with the exchange-rate mechanism in January of 1983, hoping to stabilize the Jamaican currency's par value and at the same time increase the competitiveness of Jamaican exports overseas. The facts, however, have brought a sharp contrast, with export values declining this year (primarily due to the massive contraction in the mining sector and the depreciation of the Jamaican dollar) while import values have risen substantially (again attributable to the appreciation of other currencies vis-a-vis the Jamaican dollar).

The rapid export growth in non-traditional areas of the economy (especially Manufacturing) that was hoped for, based on greater access to the U.S. market and the cheaper values of Jamaican products abroad, has not responded as expected both in volume and value; and the exchange-rate policies implemented by the Government, as well as the dismantling of trade controls in many areas, have compounded rather than improved the problem.

ANY COMPARATIVE LOOK at export performance over the last six years for the Jamaican economy would disclose that its fortunes have to a large extent followed the performance of the mining sector, or in particular the bauxite/alumina industry. When the mining sector improved, then export values grew and when the sector contracted the same happened for exports (A look at the short statistical table that accompanies this article will prove this).

In 1981, when the output of bauxite/alumina strengthened, export values grew correspondingly before falling into their worst tailspin as the international recession hit between 1982 and 1983.

The significant improvement on exports that took place last year reflected the cluster of shipments arising from the barter arrangement with the USSR and the U.S. Stockpile Programme, plus the final clearing of stock by Reynolds prior to its closure. The mining sector alone contributed US\$502.7 million, or close to 70% of the total value of exports in 1984.

The deterioration in the mining industry will have serious implications for this import-dependent economy. Higher foreign debts, further foreign-exchange scarcity to fund oil imports and the myriad of other imports compounded by rising import values due to the depreciation of the Jamaican dollar. What is worse is that a flood of imports is expected to be brought in during the latter three months of the year to build up stocks for the Christmas season, which will exacerbate the trade deficit.

THE MIXTURE OF POLICIES applied to the Jamaican economy has not changed the underlying weaknesses in the economy, although some critics would point to a wider trade gap, higher import prices and rising inflation-induced rates which has depressed the purchasing power of the economy quite severely.

Our economic planners, however, should not be taken to task for not solving a deeply inherent structural trade problem in the economy; but where I would fault them lies in their exchange-rate policy management and tariff-control policy regarding imports which have stubbornly persisted even in the face of inadequacy. Flexibility is needed now to forestall even worse trade projections.

External Trade Deficit Statistics 1979-1984 (US\$ Millions)

	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Exports (L.o.b.)	814.9	962.7	974.0	760.5	685.7	738.7
Imports (L.o.b.)	882.6	1038.1	1296.7	1204.4	1124.2	1034.4

Figures are in US\$ to give better comparative values due to depreciation of Jamaican dollar by [passage missing]

JAMAICAN DOLLAR SCORES SECOND SUCCESSIVE GAIN

FL020154 Bridgetown CANA in English 0040 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Kingston, Nov 1--The Jamaican dollar has made its second successive gain against its U.S. counterpart, after 15 consecutive declines at twice-weekly foreign exchange auctions here.

The five cents gain at yesterday's auction means that from today the exchange rate is J5.95 dollars for one U.S. dollar, or that the Jamaican dollar is now worth 16.8 U.S. cents against the previous 16.6 cents.

However, the upward swing was no way near as dramatic as Tuesday's 40 cents gain when the government put an unprecedented U.S. 8 million dollars into the Central Bank-run auction.

Yesterday, US4 million dollars was put into the auction and bids amounted to US6.2 million dollars, of which US400,000 dollars worth were disqualified. This meant that 69 per cent of qualified bids and 64.5 per cent of the total were satisfied.

The improvement in the exchange rate came against the backdrop of Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Edward Seaga's remarks this week that there was no cause for alarm when the Jamaican dollar plummeted. During September and October, the Jamaican dollar moved from J5.80 to J6.40 dollars for one U.S.

Seaga said the problem was not so much with the inadequacy of the aggregate amount available at the auctions, but rather the unevenness of flows. The government had known that there were special flows which would materialise, and that these were now coming on stream, Seaga said.

However, several analysts here remain sceptical that the exchange rate can be held because the government could not continue to afford a heavy intervention. They expect a decline in a few weeks.

It is easy to borrow some foreign exchange to mass the rate, Basil Buck, financial editor of the GLEANER newspaper wrote today, but it is another matter to hold it. We can't borrow foreign exchange every week from the commercial banks, he asserted.

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CS0: 3298/109

JAMAICA

SEAGA WILL ESTABLISH IMPORT, EXPORT BANK IN '86

FL021440 Bridgetown CANA in English 2128 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Kingston, Nov 1--Jamaica is to establish an export/import bank by next April, primarily to provide pre-export financing for businesses here, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Edward Seaga announced last night.

Seaga said the Jamaica Exim Bank will supersede the Jamaica Export Credit Insurance Corporation (JECIC), the Central Bank subsidiary which currently provides exporters with credit insurance, as well as oversees most of the lines of credit extended to the island's special funds for manufacturers and exporters.

However, speaking at a function marking the 25th anniversary of the Central Bank of Jamaica, Seaga indicated that a pre-shipment facility will come on stream before the establishment of the Exim Bank. The facility will provide to manufacturers advances in local currency so that they can have working capital. Seaga said that was intended to meet a need if the momentum in the production of manufactured exports is to continue to be accelerated.

There were also plans, Seaga said, to establish a post-shipment facility under which a manufacturer or exporter would be able to discount these exports receivable up to a level of 80 per cent of their invoice value.

Initially, one source from which financing will be derived to fund this new scheme is certificates of deposits to be issued by the Bank of Jamaica, Seaga said.

He did not say how much the government intended to raise, but that the deposits would attract preferential rates of interests and would not form part of the commercial banks' liquid assets requirement. It would in fact, he said, allow for a relaxation of the liquid assets ratio for the banking system.

Commercial banks here are required to maintain a 40 per cent liquidity ratio, of which 25 per cent is cash reserves. This is part of the government's tight credit policy even after a 10 per cent ceiling on new credit to the private sector was lifted last month.

Businesses here have been sharply critical of the tight credit, with many complaining of a shortage of working capital, which forced them to cut back production and lay off staff.

Seaga said the pre- and post-shipment facilities would be at first - administered by the JECIC because of the urgent need to stimulate exports.

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CSO: 3298/109

WPJ LEADER MUNROE CALLS FOR END TO IMF AGREEMENT

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 21 Oct 85 p 2

[Text]

Dr. Trevor Munroe, general secretary of the Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ) and president of the University and Allied Workers Union, has called for an end to the current I.M.F. agreement, a move he said would be the first step towards halting the worsening slide in the value of the Jamaican dollar.

Dr. Munroe made this call as he addressed the union's 7th annual delegates training seminar, held at the Trade Union Education Institute, University of the West Indies, Mona, on Friday morning.

Addressing the topic: "Problems and prospects of working class unity in Jamaica," Dr. Munroe, who is also a senior lecturer in political science at the university, renewed a call he made some time ago for the establishment of a national economic council.

The council, according to Dr. Munroe, would comprise representatives of the churches, the political parties, the trade unions, the private sector and the professional associations, and would make decisions on any future I.M.F. agreements.

According to Dr. Munroe, the demands of the I.M.F. on Jamaica meant that not all of the foreign exchange purchased by the Bank of Jamaica from the commercial banks was going into the auctions, at least half of this money being used to pay foreign debt.

/8309

CSO: 3298/108

BRIEFS

MANLEY IN FRG—The President of the People's National Party, Mr. Michael Manley, has been in West Germany holding talks with the Government and Opposition Social Democratic Party on the future relationship and areas of cooperation between that country and Jamaica under a PNP Government. Mr. Manley, a PNP release said yesterday, has been briefing the Government and the Opposition on the PNP's strategies for development and the party's economic and foreign policies. Present and possible future programmes of cooperation with Jamaica were also the centre of talks between Mr. Manley and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Foundation) of West Germany. Mr. Manley also met with former West German Chancellor, Willy Brandt, and discussed a programme of action to develop an international understanding by governments and political parties on the world economic crisis, and the strategies to resolve the problem. The PNP President will be in Vienna, Austria, next week where he will preside at a meeting of the Socialist International Economic Committee and attend a meeting of the SI's Bureau. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 Oct 85 p 3]

MORE HOSPITAL LAYOFFS—Approximately 120 workers are to be made redundant at the Bellevue National Chest and Port Marta hospitals, as a new round of staff cuts in the health services commences this month, the unions representing the workers were yesterday informed by the Ministry of Health. The information was relayed to the unions at a meeting at the Bellevue Hospital, which was convened by the ministry in a reaction to the request of the unions that they be consulted prior to the redundancies, which were said to have been scheduled to become effective on October 1. Ancillary staff at least nine hospitals throughout the island are expected to be affected by the cuts. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Oct 85 p 1]

TAX REVENUES—Revenue inflows from Income Tax collections increased by \$228.5 million in 1984/85, and the overall inflow of \$909 million was \$69 million above target, the House of Representatives was informed yesterday. The information came from the Report of the Commissioner of Income Tax for the financial year ended March 31, 1985, which was tabled in the House on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Planning, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga. The report prepared by the Commissioner, Mr. Winston Clarke, said: "The bottom line reflects an increased revenue flow of \$228.5 million (\$206.3 million excluding bauxite)

over 1983/84. The overall inflow of \$909 million was \$69 million above the target of \$840 million. Indeed, the inflows have increased from \$355.2 million (excluding bauxite) in 1980/81 to \$875.2 million (excluding bauxite) in 1984/85--an increase of \$520 million or 146.4%. "Financial year 1984/85 easily holds the palm as our finest year, especially since the economic climate was rather uncertain and generated a great deal of hostility towards income tax." [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Oct 85 p 1]

AIR PACT WITH CANADA--Kingston, Oct 22--Jamaica and Canada have signed a new air transport agreement extending commercial flight routes between the two countries. The agreement was signed over the weekend between Prime Minister Edward Seaga and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada in Nassau, where both leaders attended the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference. The new agreement replaces one which has been in operation since November 4, 1970. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2147 GMT 22 Oct 85 FL]

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CSO: 3298/112

WAGNER WANTS TALKS WITH ANDEAN MINISTERS

PY070037 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Nov 85

[No video available]

[Text] Foreign Minister Allan Wagner stated today that he intends to continue the talks with foreign ministers of other Andean countries in order to promote the signing of a regional agreement to limit investments in weapons, and one on mutual aid and cooperation.

[Begin recording] [Wagner] This meeting, first of all, aims to discuss the implementation of the 1929 agreement, called the Lima Agreement, and other pending matters, especially regarding Peru's use of port facilities in Arica, as established in that agreement.

Second, the other important topic of discussion will be the appropriate steps that could be taken through the creation of appropriate mechanisms to reduce expenditures on weapons, as stated by President Alan Garcia in his inaugural speech.

We will also talk with the Chilean foreign minister on other aspects of bilateral cooperation and integration between Peru and Chile, especially regarding border problems and other agreements, in addition to relations between the two countries within the framework of the Latin American Integration Association.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, the government of Dr Alan Garcia Perez has been in power 100 days today. What is your evaluation, as foreign minister, of the national situation?

[Wagner] I think the assessment of a government must not be made by members of that government, but by congress and the nation's public opinion. What I can say is that I am very proud to have the opportunity to participate in the government headed by Dr Alan Garcia, and to put at the service of the national interests and of the Peruvian foreign policy my best efforts and ability. [end recording]

/6091

CSO: 3348/168

LEGISLATORS SAID DELAYING DEBATE ON EXECUTIVE PROPOSALS

Lima CARETAS in Spanish 30 Sep 85 pp 26-27

[Text] Speaking before Congress on 28 July after being sworn in as president of the republic, Alan Garcia delivered a major speech that charted a logical and consistent course for his administration.

He announced that he would submit a series of bills to Congress: bills to reorganize the police forces, to move against monopolies, to double the penalties for government employees, to cut the president's salary, to create the Ministry of the Presidency, and to repeal Law 23231 (better known as the Kuczinsky law), as well as a job security bill, which reduces the period for producing evidence from 3 years to 3 months.

He also announced his decisions to buy fewer than 26 Mirage jets, to set up a Peace Commission to look into a possible amnesty, and to earmark only 10 percent of the country's export earnings for repayment of its foreign debt.

While the president has done as much as he can to set the pace, Congress has been downright slow to act. It has wasted an incredible amount of time, going so far as to salute provincial anniversaries, instead of debating legislation, which is what it was elected to do.

Of the bills that Garcia submitted, the only ones that have been passed and enacted are the bill to reorganize the police forces (via legislative authorization) and the bill setting up the Ministry of the Presidency (also via legislative authorization of the Executive Branch).

The oil contracts were annulled by supreme decree, and repeal of the Kuczinsky law is currently being debated in the Senate. The Chamber of Deputies has begun to debate the job security bill, and Minister Blancas could appear before it this week to join in the discussion, but it has not yet come up in the Senate. The bill doubling penalties for civil servants is in the Senate Justice Committee, which has ruled favorably, and is ready for debate. The antimonopoly bill was passed by the lower house's Economics Committee and was on the agenda but was withdrawn in recent days.

The reduction of the president's salary was considered in the joint Budget Committee, which ruled that his pay would be 30 percent higher than that of legislators (about 15 million soles).

The Peace Commission was created by executive decree. Although negotiations have not yet begun with the French firm Dassault, reports are that 16 aircraft will ultimately be purchased.

As if to confirm Congress's foot-dragging, last week it met only 2 days instead of its usual 3. It so happened that on Wednesday, APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] members were so excited about the speech that Alan Garcia delivered in the main square that they decided to leave both houses without a quorum, even though they had spent the entire session the previous day passing separate motions hailing the president for his address to the UN. It was Congress's least productive and most boring week. Moreover, there was verbal sparring aplenty (provoked by Romulo Hector Leon and Vargas Haya). One called Deputy Avila (IU [United Left]) a "cad," and the other rudely replied to Deputy Irala (IU) "because we don't feel like it." The most important matter that the lower house took up and passed on Thursday was the administration's request for legislative authorization to reorganize the Customs Bureau and the Tax Office. APRA Deputy Vargas Haya took the opportunity to announce that this would be the last time that Congress granted the administration legislative authorization.

8743

CSO: 3348/90

APRA UNDERSECRETARY CONSIDERED POTENTIAL DEPUTIES HEAD

Lima CARETAS in Spanish 7 Oct 85 pp 27-29

[Interview with APRA undersecretary general Ilda Urizar Peroni de Arias, by Alberto Bonilla; date and place not specified]

[Text] A 36-year old physician, mother of four children, a deputy during 1980 and 1985, currently undersecretary general of APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] and potential future chairman of its chamber's board of directors, Ilda Urizar Peroni de Arias joined her party in 1966. As a student, she was secretary of economy for the University Command, and later, national undersecretary for social assistance and secretary for women's political training, on two occasions. A leader of the same generation as Alan Garcia's ("I am 2 months younger," she says coyly), Urizar has submitted a bill to decriminalize abortion, because the present law is discriminatory, only penalizing women from the less privileged sectors, she explains. She does not accept a law legalizing abortion, because she would be confronted with essential issues such as the right to life; but she does favor real, effective, family planning, for which she is also working.

[Question] You have submitted a bill to decriminalize abortion in certain respects. Could you point out the features of the legislation?

[Answer] What usually happens is that abortion is done secretly, illegally. That is nothing new to anyone. But, whereas a woman of the upper middle class has it done under sanitary and medical conditions that are more or less suitable, which prevents a subsequent infection or any accident, in the case of women who are less privileged economically and culturally, it is done by trial and error, under the worst health conditions. There are abortion cases that we receive in the hospitals, which have been carried out on newspapers or on the ground. When these women arrive in the hospital, they are discovered by the hospital's PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] department, and in this way an entire process of criminalization associated with the abortion is begun. So, the present law is unfair, because it only punishes the dispossessed. It is discriminatory. This becomes a vicious circle, because the woman goes to jail. As a rule, she is the mother of several children, who often end up with their mother in jail, "because of need."

[Question] Hasn't any consideration been given to the possibility of a law to legalize abortion, under certain conditions: many offspring, unstable economic circumstances, etc.

[Answer] Decriminalization is virtually equivalent to what you are saying, because embarking on the area of legalization would mean acknowledging abortion as a non-criminal matter; and that notion is non-existent, at least in the CPA's [Aprista Parliamentary Bloc] thinking. We have compiled existing studies on the legalization of abortion. In the countries which have legalized it, the expectation and demand for abortion have not declined; they have continued, or have even tended to increase. Hence, the maternal death rate that usually occurs from abortion is not reduced by the fact that abortion is legalized for socioeconomic reasons.

[Question] And what can mothers with many offspring and unstable economic conditions do to prevent their families from increasing further?

[Answer] That must be viewed from the standpoint of family planning, associated with this decriminalization that we are promoting, wherein we are not violating the principle of the right to life. In this way, we are not clashing with ethical or moral principles which some may consider conservative, but which exist insofar as we are concerned. So, we have decriminalized the women, but we are increasing the penalty for the professionals engaged in this activity who do know what they are doing. The women on a very low cultural level have no exact idea of whether or not there is life intervening. On the common level, it is quite well known that, after 3 months of pregnancy, it is thought that there is life. You can ask any woman who has been jailed for abortion under these economic and cultural conditions whether she has killed a child, and she will tell you that she has not, because she had it before the 3 months had elapsed. All these factors must be taken into account.

[Question] Family planning is always difficult for poor families. Isn't consideration being given to more effective action by the state?

[Answer] At the present time, we have a population law, but it is not sufficiently regulatory. The bill is more of an emergency solution for certain women suffering from this problem; but the total solution is real, effective, family planning. In Chile, since the 1960's when genuine family planning began to be implemented, the expectation of abortion has declined to the lowest rates in Latin America. Whereas, in Peru, we have a fertility rate of 5.7 percent (every woman is capable of having 5.7 children!), in Chile, if I am not mistaken, they have reduced it to 3.1 during the past 25 years. Which method such be selected? That is another problem that will come under the policy to be implemented by the health sector. No more Ogino-Nauss, please; I can tell you that the world is overpopulated with "Oginitos."

[Question] Are you going to submit a bill on that subject as well?

[Answer] We are working with the National Council on Population precisely to carry out a real, effective policy of family planning with freedom and willingness. But, in order to have freedom and willingness, we must first have information. We must reach the population with information on family planning.

[Question] Would this bill entail the release of a certain number of women who are in Chorrillos at present?

[Answer] Of course. I was once imprisoned in Chorrillos. Usually, Mondays are the days when those admitted arrive. When you see a group of eight or ten coming together it is a typical abortion case; because the woman who had the abortion performed, the friend who recommended that she have the abortion and the pharmacist who gave her the address, all in socioeconomic conditions similar to those of the one who was the recipient of the abortion, arrive there to be incarcerated. It is a fact that ignorance of the law does not excuse one from punishment, but we must view the matter from a more social standpoint. The law must be flexible. In the area of abortion, there are many aggravating factors, but no extenuating ones.

[Question] Mention has been made of the possibility of your becoming head of the deputies in the second legislature....

[Answer] I have heard about it from the press, but I have no word officially. I could say that it is an honor, and in so doing I would suddenly be lying to a certain extent; because, as a woman, I know, I am convinced that we women are as capable as men of holding this or any other position. But, if I put it thusly, so pointedly, I would sound too vain. What I do think would be important to stress is that (apart from what happens to me or to any of my female colleagues, suffice it that we are women), the PAP [Aprista Party of Peru], the present government is offering proof that the evaluation of women in the country's various tasks is different from the connotation that has been made up until now. I think that this would be the most outstanding fact, regardless of the name of the one attaining this position.

[Question] And apart from the fact that you could no longer participate in the debates....

[Answer] Ah, no! Why not? When one wants to participate in the debates, it is the vice chairman who takes over, and the chairman steps down. It depends on the issue.

[Question] What is your function as PAP's undersecretary general?

[Answer] Assisting constantly in all the work of the secretary general's office. At present, we have two secretaries general, both very much involved in various tasks. Armando Villanueva is the one in office at present, for a year and a half, and then comes Lucho Negreiros. My job is to assist him in all the work of the secretary general's office and in whatever work he cannot do for reasons of time. In addition, I shall be a link between the two, a liaison; that is why I always tell them jokingly that I am the real secretary.

[Question] When a comparison is made between the work of the executive body and that of the congress , it is always to the detriment of the latter. What is going on in the congress? Isn't it geared to the pace of Alan Garcia?

[Answer] No; I would like to explain something. First, we have a Constitution which is preeminently presidentialist; and we shall add to this the fact that the president that we have is more of an executive than even the constitution allows. President Garcia takes pride in an efficiency and a speed in making decisions that is typical of him; but it must also be admitted that the gears that must occur between the executive and legislative branches are not yet well oiled. The issuance of laws to date has been made subordinate to those ordered by the executive branch, because of the urgent, innovative quality that this new government has; action that must be carried out because it is the very general context in which the new government will develop.

[Question] Nevertheless, of all the bills that the president announced in his message of 28 July, only the one creating the Ministry of the Presidency and the one giving the executive body legislative authority for reorganizing the police forces have made progress....

[Answer] That's so. At the present time, we are also completing the one on the reorganization of customs; the decision on the consumer protection law called an anti-monopoly law by some, is ready; and the decision on job stability is also ready. It so happens that we have had very long hours at first, at least in the chamber of deputies, because the area has been quite active; which is inherent in a change of government. All right, in the 50 or 60 days of the congress' work, we cannot be so demanding as to say that a sufficient number of laws have not yet been turned out. Such an assessment will have to be made at the end of this first legislature.

[Question] Deputy Vargas Haya has announced that congress will not give the executive branch any more legislative powers. Is that a party agreement?

[Answer] It is his private affair, but it is also a feeling among congressmen as a whole....

[Question] Watching out for congressional privilege?

[Answer] Look, all that has come from the previous government, and when this type of feeling is involved, in one sector or another....

[Question] Is this what happened to Vargas Haya; did he think that he was in the previous government?

[Answer] No, no, no. It is quite justifiable, because under the previous government there was really an abuse of the delegation of authority. So, the urge that is coming primarily from the opposition is understandable.

[Question] Couldn't it be to some extent that they are not yet used to being the party in power?

[Answer] Well, I think that it would be bad for anyone to become used to being in the party in power, whether he be in the executive or the legislative branch. There must always be a critical spirit, even within one's own government; but with a desire to improve things. This does not hold true for the delegation of authority, which will occur insofar as it is strictly necessary. And we don't think that our executive branch should make excessive use of this expedient, because it is not fitting for democracy either. We are the deliberative body and, as such, we can better analyze the legal structure of every provision.

2909

CSO: 3348/93

APRA JOB SECURITY BILL ATTACKED BY CGTP, IU

Lima EL DIARIO DE MARKA in Spanish 11 Oct 85 p 10

[Text] Serious differences of opinion have arisen between United Left (IU) legislators and various labor leaders, on the one hand, and ruling party lawmakers, on the other, over the Labor Committee's decision on the job security bill on which discussion has begun in the Chamber of Deputies.

Valentin Pachó, a senator and the secretary general of the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP), indicated that the committee's majority decision, which has been brought before the lower house for debate, "is harmful to the workers' interests, as this bill essentially meets the requirements of employers."

He went on to say that passage of the bill would be a setback for job security in our country. "By having the reinstatement procedures taken up in a special forum [fuero privativo], they are trying to deprive government employees of their right to a collective defense." APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] is trying to bury administrative labor law. "The Judiciary cannot guarantee real justice for the workers, and Article 8 of the committee's decision does not safeguard job security as Article 48 of the constitution stipulates."

A Matter of Principle

Cesar Barrera Bazan, a legislator and CGTP leader, said: "The job security bill on which debate has begun reflects the Aprista Party's intention to pass a law that will impair the exercise of this constitutional right. By sticking dogmatically to Article 233 of the constitution, it is trying to disavow administrative labor law."

In the judgment of IU leaders and legislators, job security should be raised to the level of a principle independent of partisan politics. "It is up to the classist labor movement to unfurl this banner, and it is up to the CGTP and the Unitary National Command of Struggle to prevent the passage of a half-hearted bill. This can be achieved if the people's representatives do not restrict the debate to Congress," they noted.

Furthermore, Senator Pachó indicated that there is a consensus within IU for the lawmakers linked to the labor movement to mobilize along with the workers under the central rallying cry of an unqualified defense of job security. "Just as we are with the miners, tomorrow we will be with the civil construction workers."

A Carbon Copy of Law 22126

For his part, the defense secretary of the CTRP-Lima [Federation of Workers of the Peruvian Revolution], Mateo Tincopa, indicated that the only good thing about the bill on which debate has begun is that it restores the 3-month period for producing evidence.

"The grounds for firing that the committee chaired by Luis Negreiros approved are broader than the ones in the ruinous Law 22126. The bill does not include the positive aspects of International Accord 158 of the International Labor Organization, which states that workers can be fired only after wrongdoing has been proven." Tincopa stressed.

In conclusion, the IU Labor Commission indicated that it is calling on all of the labor experts connected with the unions and the IU members of the Chamber of Deputies' Labor Committee to join forces against the bill that the nation's Congress began to debate last night.

8743

CSO: 3348/90

PAPER HAILS PROTEST OVER U.S. MARINES' DEPARTURE

FY092105 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Oct 85 p A2

[Editorial: "A Justified Protest"]

[Text] A shameful incident that has yet to be duly cleared up has now taken a turn for the worse with the unexpected departure for their country of the alleged aggressors: a group of U.S. Marines in charge of security at the American Embassy who were accused by four young Peruvian women of physical and moral abuse.

The matter has been complicated because on the eve of the Marines' departure the Peruvian Foreign Ministry had issued a cautious communique stating that the American Embassy had given assurances that it would fully cooperate with the Peruvian officials in clearing up the incident.

The unexpected departure of the "Marines" involved in the incident when the investigative process was still fully under way has prompted an immediate, energetic response by our Foreign Ministry, which described the departure as "a unilateral action that has obstructed justice and has aggravated the offense committed."

It is true that the Marines involved in the incident enjoyed diplomatic immunity and that, even if they had been found guilty, their trial would have been held in compliance with the international law. However, their unexpected departure has somehow conveyed the intention of taking them out of the jurisdiction of our authorities and is ultimately an abuse of diplomatic immunity.

Thus, owing to this hasty action--which we hesitate to magnify or to describe more harshly before the reply to the Peruvian protest note is received--the incident, which could have been just one of those that usually occur between young couples at certain places of leisure, has now acquired unpredictable proportions and could be exploited by habitual destabilizers who are always eager "to fish in troubled waters" and to widen the disagreements existing between the Governments of Peru and the United States.

In the face of the recent developments, Torre Tagle obviously put aside the balanced, prudent position it had been following and has demanded that the now reasonably presumed culprits be punished, that their punishment be publicized; and pursuant to the international law, that the country of the offenders indemnify the victims in the manner determined by the courts of the offended country.

EL COMERCIO EDITORIAL ON U.S. MARINES AFFAIR SCORED

PY100011 Lima EL DIARIO MARKA in Spanish 21 Oct 85 p 10

[Editorial: "EL COMERCIO and the Peruvian Protest"]

[Text] The flight of some U.S. Marines involved in a shameful incident in which they mistreated and raped four young Peruvian women has caused the Peruvian Foreign Ministry to lodge a protest note with the U.S. Embassy. In a strongly worded note, the Foreign Ministry states that the flight, under the protection of the Yankee embassy, was "a unilateral action that has obstructed justice and has aggravated the offense committed."

In fact, taking advantage of its diplomatic immunity, the U.S. Embassy in Lima has obstructed the normal course of justice and the appropriate investigation. The Peruvian Foreign Ministry was greatly surprised by the flight of the U.S. Marines, who were listed as members of the U.S. Embassy security personnel in Lima, because the embassy had given assurances that it would give its full cooperation to the Peruvian authorities to clear up the unfortunate incident.

The Foreign Ministry note demands that the "Marines" involved in the incident be brought to court and sentenced, that the punishment be made public and that, in accordance with the international law, the U.S. Government indemnify the victims for the offenses they endured in a manner to be determined by the Peruvian courts.

As anyone can see, the unexpected, unilateral departure of the Marines under the protection of the embassy entails an unacceptable offense to the country, for which the Reagan administration ought to be held liable. The departure under diplomatic immunity was designed to prevent an investigation by the Peruvian authorities and was, in any case, a dilatory tactic to make the crime go unpunished.

In the face of these developments, it is surprising that a local newspaper that claims to be serious sought to minimize the Peruvian protest by downplaying the protected flight of the Marines. In an editorial, EL COMERCIO unbelievably says: "Thus, owing to this hasty action--which we hesitate to magnify or to describe more harshly before a reply to the Peruvian protest note is received--the incident, which could have been just one of those that

usually occur between young couples at certain places of leisure has now acquired unpredictable proportions and could be exploited by habitual destabilizers who are always eager 'to fish in troubled waters' and to widen the disagreements existing between the Governments of Peru and the United States."

Colonialism is obviously deeply rooted in some Peruvians. In order to have a clear idea of what happened, one does not need to have the U.S. Government's reply, much less cast doubt on the reputation of those citizens who were attacked and raped. On the contrary, we believe the issue calls for national indignation and the Foreign Ministry has done well in clearly and energetically putting things in the right perspective.

/6091

CSO: 3348/168

STUDY RECOMMENDS WHEAT YIELD IMPROVEMENT, PRICE SUPPORTS

Lima CARETAS in Spanish 7 Oct 85 pp 20-21

[Text] And finally the low-cost bread appeared. Last Tuesday, President Garcia made his little tour of several bakeries, noting the sale of "dark" bread; he tasted it, saying "it's very rich," thereby gaining a little more publicity.

The promised was kept and the price of the bread could be cut, although at the cost of its color. The fact is that, for every 100 kilograms of wheat, 82 kilograms of flour for making white bread are obtained; whereas, with the same amount of wheat 87 kilograms are procured for low-cost bread. In other words, the flour becomes more integrated; a larger amount of its product is incorporated; and the amount of bread per kilogram of flour increases.

Although the price of bread has thereby been reduced by 50 soles, the wheat problem is continuing on the other hand. In 1984 alone, Peru imported about 964,000 metric tons of wheat, whereas the domestic production amounted to only 88,000 metric tons.

Furthermore, wheat imports last year cost \$162 million, 10 percent of our total imports. For this year, it has been estimated that \$40 million less will be spent on importing wheat, owing, on the one hand, to the reduction in its price on the international markets but, even more importantly, owing to a reduction in imports: about 835,000 metric tons.

The reduction is due largely to the decline in wheat consumption. According to a study made at the behest of the National Association of Industries. Millers Committee, the per capita wheat consumption has dropped from 56.9 kilograms in 1980 to 46.8 kilograms this year.

Moreover, the same study notes, the demand for wheat in 1985 will amount to 1.158 million metric tons which, based on this year's average price (\$143.87 per metric ton), would cost us approximately \$166 million.

Viewing the problem realistically, although it is impossible to replace wheat imports completely, there should at least be an attempt to raise the domestic production thereof. For example, the study, made by ASAGRO (Agro-Business Consultants, Inc) recommends an improvement in the yield, through the use of

improved seed, a selective campaign on 16,000 hectares called the Mountain Wheat Plan, cheap loans and technology and a special price policy for native wheat.

Almost exactly at the same time as the introduction of low-cost bread, the Ministry of Agriculture set 3.6 million soles, in cash, per metric ton, as the price of native wheat; whereas the imported wheat will be purchased at 2.247 million soles per metric ton for making low-cost bread, and at 3.104 million soles per metric ton for other uses.

(The problem is that the wheat is purchased by ENCI [National Enterprise for Industrial Marketing], and hence there would be a danger of subsidizing the native producer.) This will help to foster the growing of wheat and, at the same time, maintain the price of bread, at least for the present.

2909

CSO: 3348/93

BRIEFS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE APPOINTMENTS--Chairmanship of the Council of Ministers: executive director of the Jaen-San Ignacio-Bagua Special Project Autonomous Authority: Magno Rivera Collazos. Council of the Film Classification Board of the National News Media Institute: Percy Murillo Garaycochea (chairman), Fernando Elias Mantero, Victor Cesar Benavides Debernardi, Santiago Marcovich Monasi and Jaime Bejarano Pinto. Board of Directors of the Jequetepeque-Zana Special Project Autonomous Authority: Lizandro Mercado Avalos (chairman and executive director), Virgilio Purizaga Aznaran, Carlos Paredes Miranda and Jorge Monsalve Aita. Board of Directors of the Tinajones Special Project Autonomous Authority: Gustavo Heyesen Silva (chairman and executive director), Ramon Velez Arenas, Angel Manuel Vasquez Sialer and Antonio Becerra Herrera. Board of Directors of the Olmos Special Project Autonomous Authority: Gerardo Fuentes Linares (chairman and executive director), Raul Reusche Moscol, Hernan Silva Nevado and Victor Rivasplata Padilla. Executive director of the Huallaga Central and Bajo Mayo Special Project: Rodulfo Bazan Durand. Chief of the National Office for Evaluating National Resources (ONERN): Javier Pulgar Vidal. Cusco departmental director of the National Institute of Culture: Oscar Alfredo Nunez del Prado Castro. General director of administration for the National News Media Institute: Cesar Tellez De La Puente. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 10 Oct 85 p A-4] 2909

UNIR PRESIDENT ON IU CRISIS--The crisis in IU [United Left] is not just a problem for Barrantes Lingan; it is a problem for all of the parties that make up this political front under the country's present social conditions, Jorge Hurtado ("Ludovico"), the secretary general of the National Union of the Revolutionary Left (UNIR), stated yesterday. Hurtado acknowledged that "a leftist presence in the National Congress became our priority goal, and we forgot about working with the masses so that we could rally them after the Aprista Party won the elections. We have neglected to keep up and bolster our efforts with the masses." IU's internal crisis is having an impact on all levels, he said, even in the National Directorate, owing to political abstentionism. "This is why the last meeting of the IU Steering Committee was not held," he noted. He described the current president of IU, Alfonso Barrantes, as a "scapegoat" for the crisis in the leftwing front. "Barrantes is directly responsible, but so are all the parties, including the UNIR," he remarked self-critically. "The leftists in Congress are attaching importance to the current political moment, not to the goals of our program," he said. He mentioned that the National People's Assembly scheduled for the first week in October has been postponed indefinitely. "This is a body of revolutionary consultation, and the people who made it a priority yesterday have forgotten about it today so that they can sit in Congress," he commented. [Text] [Lima EL DIARIO DE MARKA in Spanish 1 Oct 85 p 4] 8743

PETROPERU REPORTS OIL STRIKE--Lima, 5 Nov (AFP)--Carlos Liziers, general manager of Petroperu announced here today that this state-owned enterprise has found good quality oil in a well which will increase the national reserves of hydrocarburants by about 1,200,000 barrels. He added that the well has an initial production of 1,000 barrels per day. It is located in Campos Leones, about 15 km northwest of Talara, the country's principal oil producing center. Liziers said that in the coastal region of Talara, 1,100 km north of Lima, eight wells will be drilled to exploit the oilfield found by Petroperu. At present, Peru is currently producing about 180,000 barrels per day, which covers domestic demand. Proven reserves are believed to amount to 600 million barrels. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0344 GMT 6 Nov 85 PY]

C.A. DEVELOPMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTED--Lima, 8 Nov (AFP)--The Peruvian Foreign Ministry today announced here that Peru and the Intergovernmental Committee for Migrations [CIM--Comite Intergubernamental para las Migraciones] have signed an agreement to send experts to Central America and the Caribbean to assist in the drafting of priority development projects. It was announced that this agreement is the first concrete step taken by a Latin American country since Peruvian President Alan Garcia 3 months ago proposed the creation of a group of Latin American countries that will support the efforts being made by the Contadora Group. The agreement was recently signed by Foreign Minister Allan Wagner and CIM special representative Hands Dieter Lorenz, the source added. The agreement, which is called the Pilot Program of Integrated Peruvian Experts, will permit Peruvian experts to travel to the Central American region to develop technical cooperation programs with the CIM's advisory services. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0341 GMT 9 Nov 85 PY]

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